Records of Fort St. George.

-DIARY-

AND

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT,

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THE following pages contain an exact reproduction of the third volume of the series of the old records of Fort St. George known as the Diary and Consultation Books of the Military Department. The printing of this volume has been undertaken in accordance with the decision of the Government of Madras to publish the records of the seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries *in extenso*, as explained in the prefatory note to the Diary and Consultation Book for 1672—1678.

2. The pages of the original manuscript volume are in a fair state of preservation, though the binding needs repair.

3. The eccentricities of the French passages on pages 29, 59, 163–164, 233–234, and 290—296, suggest that a knowledge of French was not very common in Madras; evidently the writer of the present volume, presumably the Secretary to the "Committee for Country Affairs," was not a French scholar. But this can hardly cause surprise.

4. It is intended to take in hand for publication as soon as circumstances permit the volumes of "French Correspondence" referred to in the present volume. They will be found to illustrate the policy of both Madras and Pondicherry in a way that cannot be expected in the "Consultation Volumes" themselves. The contents of the present volume however show with great clearness how strongly the English felt that the French claims, if established, would have led to the ruin of English trade on the Coromandel Coast. Hence the stubbornness with which the Madras merchants insisted on the principle of equality between the two companies.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE, EGMORE,
1*st September* 1911.

H. DODWELL,
Curator.

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RECORDS OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

DIARY AND CONSULTATION BOOK

OF

1754.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

———*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*———

The Extraordinary Occurrences and Consultations of Thomas Saunders Esqr President and Governour &c^a Council of Fort St George containing their private Proceedings and Transactions in the Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies relating to the Presidency on the Coast of Choromandel.

Begun 1st: January 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present.

MONDAY JANRY 7TH 1754.

THO^S SAUNDERS ESQ^R: GOV^R: PRESI[DENT]
CHARLES BODDAM HEN^Y. POWN[EY]
ALEX^R: WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Three General Letters from Major Lawrence one from M^r: Cooke read as follow vizt:

TO THE HONBLE THO^S: SAUNDERS ESQ^R: No. 19.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &C^A: COUNCIL
OF FORT S^T: GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd yours of the 9th: Instant acknowledging the different Receipts of mine.

[7TH.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

As you see my want of Officers I am oblig'd to you for thinking to remedy it. I hope Capt[ain] Pascalls state of Health will enable him better to be[ar] the fatigues of a Campaign than Captn: Innes, who has und[er]taken lately a bold peice of Work for a sickly Man. I thin[k] if the Change could have been made so as to have Capt: Pig[ou] from Arcot, his Constitution is more to be depended on [than] the other.

As to the Command I refer you to mine of the 6th: Instant. The Method you propose of easing me [of] a part of the Fatigue is quite agreeable I can answer [for] myself, and will also venture to do it, from my Acquain[tance] and the Universal Character of Col^{s}: Scott, that no trifling Punct[ilios] in command shall ever Create a Jealousy between us, but ou[r] mutual Endeavours be to forward the Common [Cause].

All our Attention is employed [in] getting Provisions into the Fort. For which We have [strongly] sollicited the King of Tanjore and Tondimen that [*a word or two lost*] supply'd I shall be able to act as you will please to [*a few words lost*] The King of Tanjore I agree with you would be glad [*a few words lost*] keep us in his Country: But a proper Person at his [*a few words lost*] might shew him that tho we move the Seat of War [*a few words lost*] ever shall have an Eye to his Safety and that it is [*a few words lost*]ble to do it without running any Danger.

The Troops under the Command [of] Gadderow from Tanjore were part arriv'd with him a[t] Tricitapoly; but by a strong Detachment of Horse & seap[oys] sent from Serringham, Monajee took the rest intend[ed for] us, and is gone in pursuit of the Enemy that by all A[ccounts] are Intended for Carrical he has had already some [*a word lost*] over them, and I hope will continue it. M^{r}: Cooke is [*a word or two lost*] with Gauderow, and forwarding as much as in his [Power] their Junction with us.

The Necessity of sending me Copy's [of the] Letters you write to the Nabob, (when you think prop[er that] I should see them,) appear'd plainly this Morning [*a word or two lost*] brought the Copy of yours of the 6th: of November and [*a word or two lost*] him with the Iterpreter to read his. He made such [Mis]takes in his reading to him, that would easily create great Confusion. As to the point about Instructions, you[r] saying you would not conclude without his Positive Orders, made him think you demanded again his Terms, he has sent you all he has to say upon the sub[ject] and desires you will act for the best.

If M^{r}: Dupleix desires a Conference, [I] think the Persons you have Chose very proper; and also think the Answer to his Letter very just & much to the Purpose. Inclos'd are the Copy's of our Letters to M^{r}: Dup[leix] & Mainville, about the Prisoners. you see what he th[inks] of our Opinions by his Answer to Schaub whether Ignorance or Roguery prevail most I can't tell. What we assert is known to me by Experience, and to several Officers with me who have serv'd the late War, & never knew it otherwise. I would have mention'd those Letters of ours before but I sent a Duplicate of them to M^{r}: Starke & one for him, desiring he would communicate it to you, which Packet fell unluckily in the Enemy's Hand.

The Nature of Bills tho perhaps I dont understand, yet I plainly know; That if the Money is only paid at Tanjore, the risque we run receiving it in Camp is just as great as from Fort St. Davids that we save as I told you before 1½ ℘^{r}: C^{t}: which is an Object in the Sums necessary for us. Would indeed the People that send us Money for the Bills insure us for that Interest, till We receiv'd it, or pay it at Trichinopoly even at that Expence, The Money would be well laid out, but the other Method is neither so Expeditious just as Dangerous and more Expensive.

I have acquainted you we had taken the Field, as soon as possible after the Attack of Trichinopoly the River that divides us and the Enemy, is no[t] fordable, and is in its Nature very uncertain, varys in its depth every two or three Days, so as to make it passable or impassable.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [7TH.]

We are oblig'd to send out large Party's every four Days for Wood & Provisions. For on our Arrival none had Come till the other Day Tondimen sent some Colory's, with four or five Hundred Bullock Load. These frequent Partys and the rainy Weather harrass our Men prodigiously.

You propose sending a Party with Abdul Bob, Cawn if the Moratta's come down I wish it cou'd have been spared to me that sure want it much.

As to the French Officers Prisoners. If you please to Name a Place they shall be sent down. The Men are taken all imaginable Care of.

M^r. Maunsell has receiv'd your Commis[si]on for Judge Advocate, And inclos'd I send you down the la[te] M^r. Devisme's.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
and most
Humble servant

Camp Decr. 21st
1753.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

To the Honble Thos: Saunders Esq^R.
President and Governour &c^A Council
of Fort S^T. George. No. 21.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I wrote to you Yesterday and have since receiv'd yours of the 13th: December.

I am too well acquainted by Experience of the little Grounds we have to trust to the Dolowoys proposal[s], nor should they at any Time prevent my acting so as to distress them. But Gentlemen it is out of my Power to act offensively. I thought my former Letters had given you Light enough into my Situation, But I will repea[t] it.

Allow the Enemy equal to me in Europeans, against my Battalion of Europeans & Topasses mixed. (The reinforcement you mention of 50 Men happens to be 200) Their Topasses are a distinct Body, and make about 400 Men, against which we can oppose a Coffree Company of about 50 Men. their Seapoys are at least four to one; and allow the King of Tanjore's Troops joined with us the rest of their Army about ten to one. their situation on the Island is as strong a one as almost can be by Nature assisted by art. We find it now difficult to get Provisions & Fire Wood; what should We do then with a River between us and the Country that supply's us, which if it rises, as we have no Boats. We must starve or Surrender: The other side of the Colleroon is all theirs. When I attack'd them before I had such a large Army, that I could divide my Force, as I did & Taking Posts on both the Rivers, stopp'd their Provisions and made them Prisoners. All this is now impracticable. I can only pretend to defend the Fort: or if that was supplied, Oblige them by some movement of mine, to march. Then indeed I might attack them in spight of their Numbers, it would not be so difficult.

However if you think I ought to attack the Enemy, Give me your Orders and I will attempt it, as to the Success that I cannot pretend to Answer for.

Our Intelligence as to [Morarow?] agrees. when I hear he has march'd I shall acquaint you. The Compliments of the Season attend ye.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
and most
Humble servant

Camp Decr. 24th.
1753.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

[7TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

No. 22. To THE HONBLE THOS SAUNDERS ESQR:
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
OF FORT ST: GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

I wrote you on the 24th Instant with an Account of our Situation. We must again have Recourse to Cyphers.

101 /Communication/ is again in 102 103 104 /interrupted/ by 48. 47. 46 /the Dollowoy & Morarow/ 152. 153. 71. 73. & 77. /Provisions, Money & Ammunition/ quite prevented from 68. 70. to us, (coming to us) [*sic*] by 52. 53. 51 Country /by the Tanjore Country/ 52. 51. 53 /the King of Tanjore/ will not let come 159. 75. 76 /his Horse/ unless 61. 62. 68. 70 /the English will march/ towards 173. 174. 175 /Deve Cotah/.

I beg you will send me Orders. Shall all 55. 59. 61 (the English) 70. 68. 3 /march/ to them, or how many or not 68. 69. 70 /march/ at all. If you could spare some 5. 7. 61. 8. 83 /English/ for 52. 53. 51 /The King of Tanjore/ I could also 70. 69. 68 /send/ some on my side, and 81. 82. 83. 84 (join) them in his Country with some more, and the rest 62. 61 /of the English/ may make Face against 63. 65. 66. 67 /the French/ nigh 43. 21. 22. 23 /Trichinopoly/.

The Nabob sends you Extracts of Letters from his Vackeel at the Court of Tanjore, you will see the purport of them I recommend them seriously to your Consideration.

If a certain Gentleman had been with the 40. 41. 50. 51. (the King of Tanjore) this would not I believe have happened. The Great Man there, is too much 16. 17. 63. 64/A Frenchman in his Heart.

I acquainted you in mine of the 23rd. that a Party of 200 Europeans from the Enemy had march'd to Gingee, the Party was paraded but countermanded.

I have wrote to Mr. Starke not to send 24. 30. 59. 71. /Money/ till further Directions. Inclos'd is a general Muster of the Troops under my Command.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
and most
Humble servant

Camp Decr. 26th
1753.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

P.S. Upon second Thoughts I have not sent you the Musters taken by Mr. Maunsell for fear they should fall in the Enemy's Hands as soon as I hear the Roads are clear they shall be forwarded.

To THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT AND
GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

This accompanys Duplicate of my Last dated 21st Instant I am sorry to acquaint you that the Tanjore Troops are not yet stirr'd nor can I form any Judgment when they design it. The Kings Fears for the Safety of his Country is

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [7TH.]

not yet to be overcome, Monajee is still out, looking after the Enemy in the Carricaul Quarter. Another Party of them from Serringham gave amusement to these Troops the Day before Yesterday, in which engagement they have taken 120 Horse, 2 Jemmidars, and about 50 Seapoys Prisoners, besides many more who were let to Escape with their Wounds. With this Loss they retir'd back with Precipitation and We hear Morarow is not a little Chagrin'd at the Misfortune. I am endeavouring all in my Power to get the Troops to Proceed, and have wrote the King several Letters to that Purpose but have not yet receiv'd any Answers. On the Contrary he is Solliciting the Assistance of our Troops against the Enemy at Carricaul, This the Major and I have both Evaded as well as we could by desiring him first to fill Trichinopoly with Provisions, otherwise we could not leave that Fort, and therefore reccommend^d him to apply to you. He has several Times importun'd me to write to S^t: David and Deve Cotah to get him a Force from thence, and I have been Oblig'd to tell him that I had done so, though as I well knew the Insignificacy of it I never did. However our Assistance is what he seems much to Insist on, and I am much afraid will not Admit of his Troops Joyning of us before his own Country is Clear'd. As the Want of them keeps all farther Proceedings at a Stand, and Time running on so Fast I think it proper to reccommend these Circumstances to your Reflection.

Your Favours of the 9th and 13th Instt are come to hand, but cannot Inform you of any Success from the last Proposals carried by the Jemmidar, No answer ha[s] ever been receiv'd to them. This Lofty Behaviour you must readily Conceive gives little hopes of doing any Thing with him, was I in the way to make farther Offers, till our Forces is all Collected and he sees himself surrounded. I therefore think with the Major that my first Business is to see the Tanjore Troops Joyned, for which Purpose I am with his Approbation still attending on them. By Means of the Kings Vackell We hear that Morarow has offered to retire if the Nabob will only make Good his Promise he made him of 3 Lack of Rupees at his first coming to his Assistance. This has been Communicated to the Nabob who would readily comply with it, Could he find the Money. The half of it in ready Money is thought will be Sufficient and the King of Tanjore has propos'd to assist with 50,000 so that there only wants the Lack which I am told the Nabob has apply'd to you to furnish, but whether Morarow will Continue in this mind till the Receipt of your Answer is I think very precarious. Your Proposal of mortgaging the Whole Country to the King of Tanjore remains still Dormant for Reasons already given which I hope will be Satisfactory. I am in due Form.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

THO^S: COOKE.

Trincathypoly.

the 28th: Decem^r: 1753.

The Extracts referr'd to in Major Lawrences Letter of the 26 Decem^r: from the Nabobs Vackeel at the Court of Tanjore are to the same Effect as what M^r: Cooke mentions in relation to Morarow's Offering to Return to his Country if the Nabob will agree to give him three Lacks of Rupees half in ready Money and Security for the rest, upon which offer the Nabob says the King of Tanjore will lend half a Lack; and deseires us to advance one Lack and be Security for the Remainder.

The Board having consider'd the said Proposal are of Opinion that We ought not, and indeed cannot, comply with the Nabobs Request as his Debt to the Company is already so large, & daily encreasing without any certainty of its being repaid, besides that Morarow is by no means to be trusted, his whole Aim is the Acquisition of Money and he has given many instances that he will Stick at nothing to gain it, Agreed that the Major and Nabob be acquainted hereof.

[7TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

The other parts of Major Lawrence's Letters being also Consider'd it is Agreed that as the detachment of two Hundred Men which the Major before Advis'd had been sent from Syringham to Gingy, did not proceed, and the incursions of the Morattas into the Tanjore Country requiring some Assistance from hence, the Reinforcement of Fifty Men before intended to be sent to Camp do proceed to Deve Cotah on board a Sloop now in the Road which the President acquaints the Board the Owners are willing to let to the Company for that Purpose. Ordered that the said Detachment be embark'd as expeditiously as possible, and that the Master of the Sloop be orderd to touch at Fort St. David to take in the Officers for Camp who lately were sent from hence, and land them also at Deve Cotah.

Draught of a General Letter to Major Lawrence is now read and approv'd as follows.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER
IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

Since We wrote you the 30th. Ultimo your Letter of the 21 No. 19 which We had not then rece'd is come to hand as are also those of the 24th. & 26th.

We are well persuaded that both Coll. Sc[otts] and your Endeavours would be to promote the publick serv[ice] and it is from the Same Inclination that We desir'd you would acquaint us how you propos'd to act in case of his Co[mds]: we should be glad to be inform'd in this Particular that every thing may be avoided which might tend to obst[ruct] so laudable a Purpose.

We can by no means take upon us to give you positive Orders to attack the Enemy. We do not prete[nd] to Judge of their Strength & Situation sufficiently to do th[is], but whenever We hint any thing of this Sort it is only in consequences of what Advices we receive, which are communicated to you, the better to assist your Judgment.

By our Letter of the 23d. you will see what were our Intentions in regard to a Military
Supply of 69. 83, 61. 27. and what prevented, that being remov'd by your Letter of
50 English
the 26, We desire your Acceptance of t z m 6-191 75. 61. 94. which you will receive
Deve Cotah you
by the Hands of 157. 173. 151. 'tis all We can spare at present and with what 121.
Join Tanjore in no Danger Officers
74. 59 can 81. 73. 76. We hope 51. 95 120 will be 183. 167. 174. The 113. 123.
Camp
151. We in a former Letter wrote you were to go to 31. 22. 23. were dispatched a
St. David.
few Days ago to 88. 132. 174

We have seriously consider'd the Extracts sent by the Nabob which you mention in your Letter of the 26th. and We are firmly of Opinion the Contents cannot on any Account be comply'd with and even if there were a possibility of doing it
Morarow.
133. 15. 47. cannot be trusted to.

The French Officers for the Reasons we have before mention'd we think might be better accomodated any where than in their Present Situatio[n] their Company
St: Geo. St: Dav. Chinglapt
would be very inconvenient at 78. 88. 35. However we must do the best We can if the Nabob should think their Paroles may be taken your Interest with Him might possibly procure their Release on promise not to serve in India, untill exchang'd, not even in Garrison, for that would give an Opportunity to [the] like Number to take the Field which in reality would be the same Thing as if those were to Act, if the Nabob
The Party Major Lawrence March to join
should not think this adviseable. 106. 198. 99-121. 156. may 68. 81. 103 at
Deve Cotah. the English. Madrass
173. 206. 52. 61 100. 24. from 78 134. 157. will afford a Convenient
to march the French Officers. Deve Cotah.
opportunity 68. 157. 161. 63. 113. 154. to 173. 178. 201.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [7TH.]

In case you should find it necessary to march with the whole Army to the
French Prisoners.
Tanjore Country, would it be improper to take with you as much 82. 63. 89. as
Trichinopoly out of Danger.
may put 41. 43. 198. 186 The Difficulty will be in finding Warehouse
Deve Cotah. To Ft. St. David.
room at 201. 55. 173. till it can be convey'd 83. 115. 88.

Captn: Schaub has represented to Us that when a part of his Detachment at Pondicherry deserted to the French he thought it necessary to reward the rest for their Fidelity and to encourage them to continue so by giving each of them a Gratuity of six Pagodas, which he desires to be reimburs'd & to be allow'd whole instead of half Batta in Consideration of the Expences he is oblig'd to be at which he tells us are large; these are Points on which we should be glad of your judgment and We have therefore acquainted Captn: Schaub that We should consult you upon them.

Captn. Charles Campbell has apply'd to us for some Recompense for a Horse he lost in the Action near Syringham which he tells us he was oblig'd as Adjutant to have Constantly with him in the Field, this falls immediately under your Cognizance & We therefore desire you will inform us whether he is entitled to any Satisfaction and what,

We are

Sir

Fort St. George Your most Obedient Servants

the 8th. Jany 1754. THO^S: SAUNDERS &CT^A: COUNCIL.

Letter from Messrs. Palk & Vansittart acquainting us that on their Arrival at Sadrass they wro[te] to M^r. Dupleix who return'd them for Answer that he had wrote to M^r. Saunders desiring Passports for his Deputys & that till he receiv'd them and M^r. Saunders Reply to his Letter they could not set out.

Draught of a General Letter to M^r. Dupleix read and approv'd as enter'd in the French Correspondence dated 9th. Instant.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence.

Abdul Bob Cawn is very pressing for a Detachment of Europeans to be sent him and says Antazey Punt the Nabobs Vackeel has acquainted him he is ready to pay the Expences of the Expedition.

The Board are of Opinion that as our Garrison will be considerably reduc'd by the Reinforcement Agreed to be sent the Major it is not adviseable at present to spare any Men for Abdul Bob Cawn unless some very particular Occasion should require it.

Letter from Viziam Rauze advising that Salabet Jing had conferr'd the management of the Rajahmundrum and Chicacul Countrys on Monsr: Bussy and requesting that in Case the French should think of disturbing him on Account of his former attachment and Friendship to us that we will order the Chiefs at Vizagapatam, Ingeram & Madapollam to Join him with their Forces, advising us to be very carefull and & [*sic*] reinforce our Northern Factorys, lest the French shou'd molest them, and direct our Chiefs to hoist Nabob Anav[erde] Cawn's Colours every where if it is our intention those Countrys should be under his Government, in which Case He will Join his Forces with ours.

Letter from Jaffer Ally Cawn Nabob of Rajahmundrum & Chicacull giving in an Account of the Quarrell between him & Viziam Rauze reminding Us of his former Friendship to us when he had Orders to destroy our Factorys but declin'd it and desiring that we will send five hundred of our Forces to Join him and he will pay the Charge, assuring Us of his strict Friendship and that he will order all the Villages round our Factorys to be put under the management of our Agents.

[7TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

Agreed that Letters be wrote to Nabob Jaffer Ally Cawn and Viziaram Rauze advising them to accomodate their Differences Amicably as the best way to Promote their mutual Interest and prevent the French from taking Advantage of their Quarrells to possess themselves of the whole Country to the utter Ruin of Both, that We shall always bear a gratefull Remembrance of the Services We receive from our Friends, that at present our Forces are pursuing the Advantages they have gain'd over the Enemy in this Coun[try] which is the Reason we cannot at present spare any Men but as soon as Affairs will permit We shall reinforce our Factorys and write our Chiefs to be mindfull of our Friends.

The President acquaints the Board that he is informd the French Emissarys have been using means to seduce Gataka (the Person whom We set up under Mr: Floyers Government for King of Tanjore in Opposition to the present King, and who now receives a Pension from the Company) from Fort St. David in Order as it is imagin'd by his means to create a civil War in the Kingdom of Tanjore, the President also acquaints the Board that he is likewise inform'd some Schemes are contriving to compass the Escape or enlargement of Rangopunt now under Confinement at Fort St. David; Agreed that the Deputy Governour & Council be advis'd of our Apprehensions & directed to Confine Gataka in such manner however that it may be as little irksome to him as Possible and that a strict Watch be kept over Rangopunt.

Thos: Saunders.
Chas: Boddam.
Henry Powney.
A. Wynch.
John Smith.
Ch. Bourchier.

JANUARY 9. Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Dupleix No. 1 wherein he says that the Pass we sent him for his Deputys being in the English Language is not Sufficient and desir'd one in the Persian, encloses a French & a Moratta Pass for our Commissarys, he further says that untill he receives the said Pass and the President's Answer to his Letter of the 25th: December his Commissarys cannot set out.

The Presidents Answer read in last Consultation not being sent, on receipt of the above Letter a Paragraph was added acquainting Mr: Dupleix that We consider his deferring from Time to Time to send his Deputys as mere Excuses and look upon it as an indignity offer'd the English Nation, the said Answer was Dated & sent this Day No. 2.

At a Consultation

Present.

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Govr: Presdt.
Charles Boddam Henry Powney
Alexr: Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier.

MONDAY THE 14TH. Two General Letters from Major Lawrence & one from Mr. Cooke read as follow.

To the Honble Thos: Saunders Esqr. President & Governour &c: Council of Fort St: George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd yours of the 20th. December with the inclos'd Papers.

I had acquainted you in some of my foregoing Letters, of the Irruption of the Morratto's in the Tanjore Country. That Gauderow had set out as far as Tricitapoly, In order to Join me, But delay'd it from Time to Time. Also that the King had apply'd to me for a Party which I refus'd till the Fort was sufficiently supply'd with

Provisions. I never receiv'd an Answer to that Letter. On the 30th. Decr: Gauderow got Orders from Court to march back again, and in Consequence immediately set out. The Reason given for it was, that Monagee had been oblig'd to return; having met with some Repulse from the Enemy. This Proceeding obliges me as soon as the Weather will permit, to march myself or send a large Party down to the King, And see what once more can be done to save us that Ally; But I must persist in thinking had what I first propos'd been follow'd we should have had him much heartier in the Cause. Mr: Cook is also gone back with the Troops, which I suppose he informs you of.

I am afraid there is but little likelyhood of a Peace, nor do I think We ever can have one till the French court of their own Accord or oblig'd by ours, recall Mr: Dupleix. He would sacrifice every thing to his Ambition & Pride, and while he can raise an Arm to give Disturbance and Money to support it, his Neighbours can never enjoy Quiet. His Letter is answer'd with Judgment & Spirit.

You think with a great deal of Justice Gentlemen on the Necessity of having Officers reliev'd from the fatigue of a Campaign. But give me leave to say that the Methods you pursue for that Relief, are Extraordinary. You keep with you three of the Healthiest Men of the Coast, to do Duty in Garrison; and send me in their stead three Invalids, I may name them. Captns: Gardiner, Pascall, Lieut Spears; for the two Captns. Campbell & Pigou. I think the Disposition might have been made otherwise, and more for the Good of the Service. You see the Effects of it in one Gentleman you sent me up lately, Captn: Sanderson, he was oblig'd to return in three Days Time. The Disorders that the Captns Campbells [*sic*] went down for, were not very Dangerous, and but Just begun: more out of precaution, than Necessity, I must own Captn: Charles Campbell, should not be mention'd, as he is properly reliev'd, the length of his service entitles him to it, and the Gentleman sent in his Room, is in good Health and able to relieve both us and him, by the Change. But the other two have no such Rights, to plead, and the Persons sent in their Room have not Constitutions for the Field, but may be of use to us all in Garrision; Captn: Kilpatrick lately tho incapable by his Wounds to act in Camp, yet shew'd by his Gallant Behaviour in the Fort he was able to do great service there. I beg you will think of this, And not let a determined resolution to oppose me in every thing make the Interest of the Honble Company less dear to you.

You ask me concerning the Vacancy & my Opinion of Mr. Brown. Be so good Gentlemen to settle, and agree that amongnst yourselves, as you have done before in many other Cases, without ever consulting me. A few Months will decide whether I am at all to be concern'd with the Military Affairs.

I dare say our sending a Party to Tanjore will help to remove any Jealousy from the King. Your Method of treating is very proper between Dupleix only, and the Nabob. Tho I am afraid he will also bring in the Dolloway as a Party concern'd, especially if he has a mind only to amuse us, by raising Difficulty's, and to make them all seemingly come from him. I wish it were possible to manage him, and Morarow. You have heard of his last Offer I suppose, To draw off his Troops for a Lack and a half of ready Money & the other half to be secur'd him. Of the ready Money the King of Tanjore offers to pay 50,000 Rupees, so the Nabob has but one lack to pay, could he raise it. I had the Letter read to him from Morarow, he could say no more to it but that Morarow was a Rogue and not to be trusted. That he had been one of his Chief Advisers, not to give up the Fort.

The French Prisoners are changed Prison, & now secur'd against any escape, as to the Officers I refer you to my last about Changing their place of Confinement. I will not answer for them, to the Nabob, on their Paroles, you know how they serv'd me once. Besides they may serve in their Garrisons, and others be sent in their Room; so the want of them would not be so much felt.

Pray were you Ignorant that Ramah Naigue was out of Favour with the King of Tanjore: He is so much so that the King has refus'd giving him an Audience yet. As to his Instructions I know nothing about them. It would be proper so far to let

[14th.] ——FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.——

me know them, as the People that he treats with will expect I should; and may be surpris'd were I to advise Contrary to any Directions he may have received, for want of knowing them.

I have desird Captn. Killpatrick not to send his returns yet, you may guess at the Reason. The Commissary musters them regularly, as the other Troops; I will be answerable that the Reasons are just.

The late bad Weather or perhaps what is worse the latter Season of a Constitution wore out with fatigue, and I must say it Uneasiness makes me afraid I cannot much longer resist on Account of my Health, & serve the Company, or be of the use to them I would chuse, and ever endeavour'd to be, I have been oblig'd to go into the Fort again, to see what a warm House may do for me

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
and most
Humble Servant
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp
January 3d. 1754.

No. 24. TO THE HONBLE THOS: SAUNDERS ESQR: PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA: COUNCIL OF FORT ST: GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 20th: and since of the 23d: I had in the Letter of the 7th: (the receipt of which you Acknowledge) given you an Account of my Strength, and what I knew of the Enemies. I have inform'd you since of the reinforcement they had receiv'd of 200 Europeans, and beg to refer you to mine of the 24th: for a more particular Account of my Situation; since that of the 7th: is not plain enough to shew I could not think it adviseable to attack the Enemy. The Accounts you have of the Sick, and wounded, may be very Just; but give me leave to Judge (that see their Battallion out at Exercise two or three times a Week) of their Numbers here; that I still think superiour to us, Besides the Advantage of their Situation. It is needless to repeat it, that I do not think it a warrantable Action to attack them, and I hope before you receive this you will think the same; if not, I must beg you will come and conduct yourselves, and give me leave to have the Honour of serving under you as a Volunteer. But as a Commander I cannot order it.

Our Affairs at Tanjore are in a very ticklish Situation, and had not a late lucky stroke of Monagees happen'd which perhaps may alter them, a Neutrality would have been by this Time sign'd This Opportunity may still be improv'd, and if Mr: Palk is no more wanted at the Congress, his Presence will be of great Service.

Mr: Cook certainly informs you of all that passes so I refer you to him.

I did intend marching, but the News stopp'd me and if I find we can get Provisions I shall not do it, except you think it necessary, As for his Troops coming I believe it will be a Work of Time. The Friendship of the King of Tanjore is of the greatest Consequence to us, nothing shall be wanting on my side to encourage it and I flatter myself your Endeavours will be to the same Purpose.

You desire me in your last of the 20th: to purchase for the Company what Arms may have been taken from the Enemy. As to us We never get any, the strict Order We are oblig'd to keep in, for fear of the Enemys Horse in any Engagement will not let our Soldiers stoop to pick them up; The black People get them all, and sell them so much better amongst themselves, that they would not accept of the Price the Company would offer. and besides we see very few of them afterwards.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [14th.]

In the Assault of Trchinopoly, we took 100 Stand but were oblig'd to give them to our Artillery, who had lost all theirs in the Affair of the 21st: Septemr: which they were oblig'd to throw away to be the better able to work their Guns.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Odedient and most

Humble Servant

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp
Jany 6th: 1754.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR:
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA: COUNCIL
OF FORT ST: GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

This encloses Duplicate of my last dated 28th: Ulto: with Copys of what I have since wrote to Major Lawrence which will fully inform you of the Reasons of my Return to this Place; and the strange Things that are doing at it. Till the Major and Nabob appears I expect nothing but Tales to amuse, without any Design of Performances. As you have the whole Particulars enclos'd it is needless for me to insert any more here on this Subject. News was sent me from the King this Morning That Monajee had engag'd the Enemy again with great success, 800 Horse he says are taken and the rest are quite dispers'd. I attribute this Action to have been very opportunely, as the Enemy's Order for that Party to retire was Expected every Hour. Whether this Success may give the King new Spirits and engage him to Cast off his regard to the late Negotiations he has had with the Enemy a short Time may discover. The Major & Nabob will I believe be here very shortly when (if ever) he must be prevail'd on. Yesterday came to hand an Answer from the Dolloway to my last Proposals. I have not had Time to turn it into English therefore must Acquaint you that the whole material of it lyes in these two Choices. Either to give him up Trichinopoly, or pay him his Expences from the first Day he came into the Province. Grant him either of these and he offers to retire. I am afraid this will be too great a Sum to be any Ways complyed with, however shall take the first opportunity of discoursing the Nabob when I shall inform you of the Steps I take in it. Morarow is already flown off from the Proposals mention'd in my Last, I am in due form.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servant

THOMAS COOKE.

Tanjore
4th: Jany 1754.

The King of Tanjore's Behaviour of late seeming to incline much towards a Neutrality which it is probable the march of the Army from Trichinopoly towards him might prevent. Agreed that it be hinted to Major Lawrence but left to him either to do so or not as the Affairs at Trichinopoly are so precarious that some new Circumstances may arise which only those on the Spot can Judge of.

As Mr. Dupleix and indeed other Advices mention that 'tis not improbable Salabat Jing may come into this Province very shortly to settle it, Agreed that the Major be desired to consult with the Nabob and acquaint us with their Opinion what Steps should be taken in case he should really march this way and require us to withdraw our Assistance from the Nabob.

The Commissary lays before the Board a Letter from Captain Pigou at Arcot acquainting him some of the salt Provisions in that Garrison had been given to the Men but that it was so very salt and Rank it could not be eat and he thinks it must

[14TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

[*sic*] condemned. Agreed that Captn. Pigou be order'd to send part of it hither that it may be properly survey'd and dispos'd of if Saleable and that it be replac'd as soon as possible with new salted Provision.

Messrs. Palk and Vansittart Commissarys at Sadrass write 13th. that the French Deputys were not then arriv'd.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence.

Letters from the King of Tanjore & Succojee Naigue his Prime Minister, advising of the Incursions of the Morrattas into the Tanjore Country and the advantage gaind over them by Monajee, that the Apprehension of having his Country laid Waste and plunder'd obliges him to keep all his Forces in a Body to make head against the Enemy that he wrote to the Major and Nabob and also to Deve Cotah for Assistance but none came and that his Relyance is entirely on us for the Protection of his Country agreeable to our Promise.

Agreed to write to the King of Tanjore that we have sent a Detachmt. of Men to Deve Cotah and desir'd the Major to concert proper Measures for the safety of his Country, and to assure him of our firm Attachment to his Interest.

THOS SAUNDERS.
CHAS: BODDAM.
HENRY. POWNEY.
AR: WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS: BOURCHIER.

JANY. 16TH: General Letters to Major Lawrence and Mr. Cooke sign'd and sent as follow, also Genl: Letter to Captn. Kilpatrick at Trichenopoly which containing nothing material is omitted.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR: COMMANDER &CA:

Sir,

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 3d: and 6 Instant.

The Incursions of the Morattas into the Tanjore Country will undoubtedly make the King very uneasy induce him to recal his Troops and desire our Assistance which We think should be given him as far as the Situation of Affairs will admit to facilitate which We have sent on the Salangore Sloop to Deve Cotah a Detachment of 50 Europeans who will wait your Orders We believe also that an Apprehension of the Conference with Mr: Dupleix and treating with the Dallowoy may raise his Jealousy though the greatest Caution is taken to prevent it no doubt but the French will take all opportunitys to heighten it and probably by the means of Succojee Naigue, such People are always gratify'd, and if the Nabob could bribe higher he might purchase him. We have always thought with you the Kings alliance is of the utmost consequence and whenever his Resolution is suspected to be wavering the march of the Troops might We conceive greatly influence him as these Princes are sometimes more afraid to refuse than forward to grant.

By the inclos'd Letter from and one to Mr. Dupleix you will see the little Prospect there is of concluding any thing with him. Our Commissarys have been at Sadrass ever since the 30th but he has sent none yet, this Affront is so Gross that We shall recall them. Mr: Dupleix's Ambitious Disposition is known in Europe as well as India and Endeavours have not been wanting to remove him. We hear two of the French Directors are gone over to England and hope our Gentlemen will exert themselves.

'T would be a pleasure to us if We could supply you with every thing you can desire. On your Request of Officers Captns. Campbells Lin and Greenville & Pascall were order'd; the two first equally alledge their long Services in the Field and that

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [16TH.]

it was but reasonable all Officers should have their Tour of Duty, Captn. Lin declares himself incapable of Duty from a violent Pain in the Head, Captn. Pascall by Gentlemen from Deve Cotah is represented to us as well in Health as ever he was in his Life, Captn. Pigou has the Command at Arcot a Place of Consequence that requires an active healthy Officer and We have none capable of relieving him.

The King of Tanjores Coolness to Ramah Naigue proceeds from Succojee Naigue, had We given him any particular Instructions you certainly would have been acquainted with them in our Letter of the 5th. Novr. We inform'd you that "Ramah Naigue having been conversant with the Affairs of the Country Powers We have Order'd him as Vakeell first to Tanjore & then to Camp when you may employ him on all Occasions you Judge necessary" and the President in his Letter of the same Date mentions in his intimation concerning the Government of Trichinopoly so that our Intentions were that he might be employ'd as a Vackeel whenever he was usefull.

In regard to Treaty The Dalloway demands remain just the same nor do we believe he will abate in them. Probably by negociating with the King of Mysore much more may be effected. This seems to be the General Opinion here. Mr. Cooke writes us Morarow has already flew off from his Proposal, his going to his own Country we never credited. The Nabob's Request of us was not quite so modest as he told you & Mr. Cooke, we were to advance 1 Lack and get him Bills on our Soucar for 1½ more for which we were to be Security which was in Effect paying the whole, and this the low Estate of our Finnances will not admit of.

We have already wrote you concerning the French Officers.

Captn. Schaub assures us the Detachmt: from Pondicherry did not exceed 50 Men.

Salabad Jing is so distress'd for Money that to satisfie the French for the Pay of their Troops he has given them a Grant for the Rents of the Rajahmundrum & Chicacul &ca: Governments. Japher Alley Cawn the Nabob and Vizeram Rauze had wrote the President that they would not deliver them if they had any European force to assist them. Vizeram Rauze writes that a Sod of Gauzede Cawn has been appointed to the Government of the Decan.

Mr: Dupleix says it is possible Salabad Jing may come to settle this Province and the King of Tanjore says Ballazerow was to begin his March this way in September and Salabad Jing very probably would come with him. We have no Accounts of any Motion made by either of them, and look upon it as very uncertain. However should such a Thing happen it will be prudent to concert measures in time, please to talk with the Nabob on this Subject and Learn his sentiments.

On Mr: Palks return we shall prevail on him to go to Camp.

Enclos'd are Copy's of Letters to the Nabob & King of Tanjore.

We are sorry to hear of your Indisposition and hope you have found benifit from your being in Trichenopoly.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants
THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR: WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
the 16th. Janry
1754.

[16TH.] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.* ——

To THOMAS COOKE ESQR.

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 28th. Ulto. and 4th. Instant with Copys of those to Major Lawrence. The King of Tanjores Country being destined to Plunder must certainly make him uneasy and wavering and Possibly a Jealousy of what may pass in Conference with the French and in Treaty with the Mysorean may contribute to it, but when he finds that We have sent a Detachment to Deve Cotah and that the Major will on emergency move towards him and has from us the most Solemn Assurances that Nothing shall pass in Conference or Treaty but with a strict regard to his Interest as our own & add to these Monajees late Successes We hope he will be Easy. We imagine Succojee Naigue does not support the French Interest unrewarded it must be your care to lay before the King every thing in such a manner as may most remove his Doubts We don't conceive the Dolloway will hearken to any Term but the last (for the first is impracticable) except oblig'd to it and in that Case the Nabob may give him such as he pleases. When Ramah Naigue went from hence Mr: Starke was desir'd to supply him with what Trifles he might have Occasion for, he has made an Extravagant Use of this Liberty. Inclos'd is a list of Things he took with him which may be made use of as Occasion requires.

We are

Sir

Your Affectionate Friends
THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY. POWNEY.
ALEXR.: WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS: BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
16th. January 1754.

MONDAY THE 21ST: AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDT:
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR: WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

General Letters from Mr: Henry Brooke at the Negrais Dated 31st December & 11 Instant the first being a Duplicate the Original whereof is not yet receiv'd, also General Letters from Mr: Robert Westgarth at Syrian dated 18th: Ulto: and 2d: Instant read as follow.

To THE HONBLE THOS: SAUNDERS ESQR:
PRESIDENT & GOVR: &CA: COUNCIL OF
FORT ST: GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I take this opportunity of the Fortune Sloop, bound to Madrass which put in here with some Provisions in her Way from Bengal to Syrian, To acquaint your Honours that on the 24th: Instant David Hunter Esqr: Departed this Life of a Fever which continued Eight Days.

I have agreeable to your Honours Commands in your Letter to me of the 4th: April last taken upon me the Charge & Management of this Expedition & shall inviolably adhere to the Plan he has proceeded on untill I receive your further Orders.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [21st.]

The Detention of this Sloop here being very inconvenient to the Gentlemen of Bengal, prevents my writing to You by her so fully as I could wish, but shall do Myself that Honour by the Cuddalore which I shall Dispatch to your Honours from hence in a few Days.

I am ·
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt· hble servt·
HENRY BROOKE.

Negrais
the 31st Decr· 1753.

To THE HONBLE THOS· SAUNDERS ESQR·
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA· COUNCIL
OF FORT ST: GEORGE.

I have had the Honour of addressing your Honours the 31st Decr· last ℔ Sloop Fortune, in her way from Bengal by Syrian to Madrass, Duplicate whereof I now enclose you.

Under Cover hereof I take the Liberty by the Cuddalore Sloop to transmit your Honours the Several Papers as ℔ List of the Packet, which I thought most necessary on this Occasion of Dispatch, but as Mr: Hunter has been destitute of an Assistant by my Detention at Syrian till 3d: Decr: last by a long Illness, which with his own Indisposition at this Place, has prevented the Papers relating to the Honble Company being kept up with so much exactness as I could wish. This I hope will be my Advocate to your honours for those Errors or Incoherences which may appear in my Conduct; But whatever mistakes I may have been guilty of since the Death of Mr: Hunter, as I have with an upright Intention and with the utmost Application endeavour'd to avoid, will not I hope, be imputed to me as my Fault, but my Misfortune.

Mr· Hunters Letter to your Honours under Date the 20th: Septr: last represents our present Situation so Strongly, that it might be deem'd Presumption in me to add any thing further on that Head. But as I think it is now my Duty rather to incur Censure than be silent, I shall beg leave to offer the following.

The King and Rajah as well as the Peguers in general extreamly Jealous of Foreigners, since the Time of the Portuguese, who defended their Fort at Syrian for many Years against their whole Nation, it will not therefore be an easy Matter to prevail on them to ratify the Articles agreeable to Mr: Hunters Plan, without some acknowledgement made them in Return, and even did they give up the Negrais to us upon our Terms, I cannot think it will be for many Years, if ever a Place of Profit to the Honble Company, the Country for 80 or 100 Miles about is compos'd of Islands almost entirely destitute of Inhabitants, and cover'd with Woods; a fine Harbour, plenty of Wood, and good Water, but scarce in the dry season, are the only Advantages it can boast of, it is in itself incapable of maintaining for many years to come a number of Inhabitants, & must therefore be Dependant on other Places for the Necessaries of Life; & the great River leading to Persaim & Ava from whence all Provisions & Merchandize must Come lies open to the Sea above us, and is at most Times, but particularly in the South West Monsoons extreamly Dangerous for the Country Boats to approach us; these Inconveniences will ever make Provisions scarce. Persaim which lies about 80 Miles from hence has none of these Inconveniences it has by all Accounts, the Advantage of a fine Air, a good Rice, Country about it, a River safe and navigable for the largest Ships, & is capable of maintaining any Number of Inhabitants, I am therefore of Opinion if ever the Honble Company may Reap a Profit from the Trade of this Country, they must make Persaim the Head Settlement. The Destruction of the Kingdom of Ava by the Peguers, from whence all the Riches and Commodities proceeds, has ruin'd Trade universally throughout this whole Country and it must take some considerable Time before it can flourish again. The Peguers have on every Occasion endeavour'd to represent Persaim in the most favourable Light to us but whether they intended us a real Advantage, or to draw us nigher to them, and therefore more in their Power I shall not take upon me to Determine.

[21 v°] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

Our Situation here at present is not the most eligible, We have lost Mr Hunter before any thing Material has or could be done with the Court of Pegue for the Interest of our Honble Masters, We have 'tis true got some Houses or more properly Hutts ashore, but We are far from being in a state of Defence, even against a Country Enemy should they attempt to attack us, We are much expos'd from the Hill and the Wood behind us, nor is it possible to secure ourselves for some considerate time to come with the Number of hands we have; our Guns are mounted on the Peer to the N^o^ of 26, but We cannot afford above one healthy European to two; however they make a Shew and serve as a Terror to the Country People, and so far they may have a good Effect.

Captn Mainwaring has given in his Protest, & his Charter Party will soon expire, should he leave us before We are reinforc'd by your Honours. We then are left only to the Arcot for our Guard Ship, which has been so leaky since her arrival here that she can scarce be kept above Water.

If the Turtle at Diamond Island at any Time fail us, which we cannot tell how soon may happen, and which is so essentially necessary to the Support of our People in General, 'twill then be impossible to Subsist here much longer, but this I am certain of, that in the S. W. Monsoon we cannot be supply'd from thence. We have also had such an universal lingering Sickness for some Months past raging amongst us, that of the M[ilitary] not half have been able to do Duty, of 40 Lascars, [not] 20 in the best Days could be muster'd to the Works, the 40 Bengal Lascars & Coolies also, tho' they arriv'd here in November last, have fallen Sick in Proportion, & the Mallabars to a Man have been render'd Useless.

These our Circumstances being taken into Consideration, will I hope demonstrate to your Honours how much We stand in need of Supplies both of Men & Provisions, and as Mr Hunter has made an Estimate of both, We doubt not of your Friendly Care to Supply Us with Speed.

The Mallabars being a considerable Addition to the Expence of the Honourable Company, and render'd incapable of Working by a tedious Sickness, I have agreeable to M^r^: Hunter's Intention return'd sixteen of them to your Honours by this Conveyance, and also Serjeant James Jackson an European who was found Guilty of Mutiny by a Court of Enquiry held at this Place, he has not receiv'd any pay since the 15th May last.

I also send you one Coffrey Slave who was transmitted here from Syrian, & has been paid by Mr Westgarth five Tickall ℔ Month, but as We do not think proper to trust him with fire Arms, neither as a Companys Slaves entitled to Wages, I have taken the Liberty to send him to your Honours.

I must also beg leave to acquaint your Honours that the Honble Compys Cash begins to grow Short the Ballance in our Hands for last Month is but 16951-1-77 Rupees sixteen Thousand nine Hundred & fifty one one Quarter & Seventy Seven Reas, as will appear in the Account Current for last Decr and the monthly Expences for this Place Syrian & Persaim, begin to run very high, notwithstanding our utmost Frugality to the Contrary. There are eight Months Arrears due to the People of the Arcot Snow the Cuddalore & Fortune Sloops & also a Considerable Arrears due to the Military and People of the Train, for Hatchet Work done, in cutting down the Trees at our first Arrival here; for which they Expect to be paid at the Rate of four Fanams ℔ Day, according to Mr Hunters agreement, & for which I wait for your Honours Approbation, Coll. Scott from Bengal has also wrote for a Large Quantity of Timbers which are much wanted there, & which we shall not be able to procure, unless your Honours will please to supply us largely with Cash.

M^r^: Hunter having acquainted your Honours of the Inconvenience he has been at, by not bringing a Person with him who could write a fair hand, I must beg leave to represent to your Honours, it is absolutely necessary that We should have one or two Persons in this Place who can Copy fair, to be able to keep up our Honble Masters Affairs with any tolerable Exactness.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [21st.]

By this Conveyance you will receive as Musters, Two Timbers of 6 & 7 Inches square, and from 20 to 23 feet long, which are the produce of this Island at 1½ Rupee ℔ Timber; and also two Teak Plank of 11 Inches Broad, 2¾ thick, and 35 feet long, which was procur'd at Persaim; there can also be procur'd here Timbers of the Sundry Wood from 15 to 16 Feet long, & from 11 to 14 Inches square, at 2½ Rupees each & Teak Plank may also be procur'd at Persaim from 20 to 48 Feet Long from 11 to 15 Inches broad and from 2¾ to 3¾ thick at 5½ to 8½ Rupees ℔ pair.

We have taken the Liberty to send you an Indent of Medicines, which cannot be of much Service unless your Honours will please to send here a Judicious Person to administer them I am

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt. humble Servt

HENRY BROOKE.

Negrais.

11th. January 1754.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I herewith send you my Accounts from January last to the month of November by way of the Negrais, and by the Neptune shall transmit you my Accounts for the whole Year: by which I shall give you the full Situation of the Honble Compys affairs here and must desire you will be pleas'd to send me some Supplys as I have been oblig'd many Times to disburse my own Money on the Honble Compys Account and have almost built a new Vessell of upwards of Forty Tons, for the Honble Companys Service at the Negrais, and when finished I shall send you an Account of the Particulars of her Cost.

I have apply'd to Govr: Hunter who has been kind enough to assist me with some small Supplys, as you will perceive by my Accounts but as he has no Orders in particular concerning me, I must beg the Favour of you, to give him some Direction relating thereto, in case I want his Assistance, I remain with great Respect.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

ROBERT WESTGARTH.

Syrian

Decr. 18th. 1753.

To THE HONBLE THOS: SAUNDERS ESQR:
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA: COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I now send you Duplicate of my last, Accompanying my Accounts for the w[hole] Year. and can only tell you the King of [Pegu is] only trifling and drawing us, for I plainly perceive they have no Inclination to Com[ply with] our Demands any further than what fear induces them to, they have frequently given Orders for every Thing I desir'd but such Orders as his People are at present afraid to comply with I had an Order with the Rajah's Chop to it, for sending Boats to the Negrais, which after my Boats were Loaden, the Government of this Place took the People out, took the Rajah's Order from Them, sent them to the Government of Pegu who whip'd them, and made them pay sixty Tical before they were Releas'd at that very Time. I happen'd to be with the Rajah, when the People came & told me what had happen'd, which gave me some concern I immediately desir'd [the] Rajah to reprimand his Government for such Treat[ment] which he promis'd to do, and likewise they should [not] do so again.

[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

The King desired I would go to desire Govr: Hunter to come to this Place, and on my return from thence I waited on the King with Govr: Hunters Letters to [him] and the Rajah, when I apply'd to him for Artifice[rs] for the Negrais, he very readily gave me an Order to the Rounday for what I wanted, and likewise one to the Rounday at Persaim, to send a hundred Cooleys from thence and for all the Supplies that Country could afford, I ca[me] away with Joy to think of the Supply's He had granted me, and when I came to Syrian the Rounday told me to send what People I could get, but the People are afra[id] to go, for fear in their absence, the Government will oppress their Family's, as the Rajah had not menti[oned] their Names singularly, to satisfie Them in this Poin[t] I promis'd to indemnifie them against anything of this kind, and for that purpose have wrote to the Rajah three times for such an Order as the People want, and [he] has wrote to the Rounday & me, but in such an Evasi[ve] manner that it plainly appears he does not intend [that] We should have them, I hope his Orders to Persaim has had some better Effect than those given to me, but I have not heard how Mr: Taylor has Succeeded Therein.

My not succeding to their desire in Govr. Hunters coming here they have now sent Cojee Nicouse on the same Errand, who has come to me and has ask'd my Pardon for his former Offences and has promis'd he will do a great deal for the Company he is not yet return'd from the Negrais, so I cannot inform you of the Success of his Embassy.

On the 31st: Ultimo I have discover'd a plot of Mons. Bruno, the French Chief here, who left this Place that Day with an Intent to go to the Negrais, and has Salted Several Jarrs of Pork which he has poison'd and intends to present them to Govr: Hunter and his Officers in Order to destroy them, I hear the Italion Priest here has some hand in the Affair, but I sent an Express immediately to inform Govr: Hunter of their Wicked Design which will arrive before Bruno, I have not disclos'd this Secret as yet till he is fairly out of this River, to see whether he proceeds in his intended Villainy which if he does I hope Govr. Hunter will give him his Desert this Secret came to me by one John Grainger an Englishman, who was under the House of Mr. Bruno when he heard them preparing this Plot, and says he see them put the Poison into the Pork, and they french discovering him, Run for a Sword to stab him, on which he made his Escape and came immediately to me and inform'd me of this Treachery.

I think their only Reason for doing so is, that they have some Design on this Place and the better to Accomplish it, they will do this Treacherous Action, for they think as Mr. Hunter is so near and our making an Alliance with the King of Pegu will by Some Means render their Scheme abortive. this is all the Reason I know of they can have which I shall inform the King of Pegu of so soon as I receive advice from Govr. Hunter.

On the 26th. of September last the Kings General Poonea Coohorn, stopp'd here in his Passage towards Ava, and enticed away Eleven of the Honble Compys Coffreys & Eleven Lascars, I have made many Applications to the Rajah about them but can have no Redress.

The Sundrys sent on the Moors Snow, & King of Pegu's Ship I have sent to the Negrais I must desire you will be pleas'd to comply with the enclosed Indent and am with great Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

ROBERT WESTGARTH.

Syrian

Jany 2d. 1754.

The Death of Mr. Hunter making it necessary that a proper Person should be appointed to succeed him in the management of Affairs at the Negrais, The President propos'd to the Consideration of the Board whether all circumstances consider'd, it

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

was necessary one of the Council should be pitch'd upon or whether any other of the [21st.] Companys Servants equally capable might not answer the Purpose as well, and after some Time spent in Debate this being thought an Affair of Moment the several Members of the Board were call'd upon to deliver their Opinions in Writing, which they respectively did, as follow.

I am of Opinion that it is not in the least material what Station the Person may bear in the Companys Service who is to be pitch'd upon to succeed Mr. Hunter in the management of Affairs at the Negrais But that the Nature of the undertaking in all Respects being well consider'd a person of a proper Capacity amongst the Companys Servants should be appointed to conduct it.

CHARLES BOURCHIER.

It is my Opinion that our Honble Masters look upon the Establishing a Settlement on the Negrais to be of great Consequence, but I do not infer from thence that it is necessary one of the Council should succeed Mr. Hunter, but rather a Person skill'd in Fortification and Maritime Affairs especially the Latter to be capable of Chusing a proper Place on the Island in regard to the Advantages of an Harbour for in this Particular I believe every Gentleman at the Board thinks the Company's Interest chiefly concern'd and that the Prime Motive for erecting a settlement on the Negrais was that they might have a proper and safe Place to harbour and refit their Ships in the Time of the Monsoon on the Coast with other Advantages that might accrue in time of War. From these Reasons I am induc'd to mention Mr. Hopkins a Gentleman who has been in Pegu and is pretty well vers'd in the beforenamed necessary Branches. him therefore I think a proper Person to be sent on this Expedition.

JOHN SMITH.

As there is but little Probability of a Trade being carried on at the Negrais for some time all that is requir'd at present seems to me to be the negociating with the King of Pegue & carrying on the Settlement which I think may be done as well by a Gentleman under as one of the Council, as the Orders and Instructions from hence would be the same to one as the other, I therefore am of Opinion there is no necessity for one of the Council being sent.

ALEXR. WYNCH.

I dont think it necessary that one of the Council should be appointed to be Mr. Hunters Successor as the Campany thought proper to appoint him & Mr. Combes to settle at the Negrais & by the Advices from hence they will find that Mr. Combes is return'd to his Station at the West Coast to which We may Expect Answers in a few Months they will in all probability pitch upon a Person themselves whom they may think Qualified for such an Undertaking for the present another Companys Servant joind with Mr. Brooke to see the Works carried on and Endeavour to cultivate a Friendship with the King of Pegue which may be as well transacted by them as by one of the Council there being no appearance at present of any Trade or Manufacture to be procur'd whereby the Company may reap any Advantages.

HENRY POWNEY.

As the Company in sending Mr. Hunter on the Expedition to the Negrais, had neither station'd or mention'd him of any particular Rank in their Service but without doubt thought him a proper Person to Execute such a Design, and the Question being now put, whether one of this Board should not be appointed to Succeed him, from the Important View our Honble Masters might have of making a Settlement there, I don't conceive (if any other Person could be found under Council and was Qualified for the Nature of such an Undertaking as has been hinted of a Gentleman's peculiar Capacity for this Performance) it is so immediately necessary

[21m] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

for one of us to go, since it cannot be suppos'd, where a Man has only been us'd to their Employments of Business and Trade here, and that Place as an Infant Settlement at present entirely destitute of any such helps from him, he can be of any great Service before it is brought to some Perfection, for reeeiving that Advantage, which it requires an able and capable Person, who has some Knowledge and Judgment, both of Fortifications and the Situation of Ground for other natural Conveniencys, to render it more usefull in the Way I apprehend it was represented, & might be Esteemd for.

CHARLES BODDAM.

As our Honble Masters by their Appointing Mr. David Hunter to conduct this Scheme, a Gentleman of Years and Experience and at the same time were so very cautious to prevent its miscarrying for want of a proper Person in Case of Accident as to direct Mr Combes another Gentleman high in their Service and as by Accounts from thence We learn Affairs are in a very precarious Situation I think this Expedition should not be trusted to a Junior Servant but that the properest Person in Council should be order'd to transact it.

THOMAS SAUNDERS.

Agreed that the Opinion of Messrs. Starke Lawrence & Cooke be taken in regard to the Appointment of a Successor to Mr. Hunter at the Negrais.

General Letter from Thos. Cooke Esqr. read as follows

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT &
GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Annex'd is Duplicate of my last I have been ever since Solliciting the King for another Audience but cannot yet obtain it the Excuse is that Gauderow is in Mourning on which Account no strangers can be admitted for some Days the Major hearing of Monajee's late success has sent only a Party for the present offering to come himself if that is not sufficient. They are arriv'd at Tricattypolly which the King being appris'd of has sent me a Message by Secojee desiring I would Order them to return as Monajee had quite dispers'd the Enemy and his Country was now clear'd; and that he believ'd in 15 or 20 Days his Troops would set out again to join us. The Distance he keeps me at I think does not bespeak the least Credit to this, I have insinuated the same to the Major, but am not yet acquainted with his final Resolution. My opinion however is still the same that these Troops stir not till he and the Nabob come & make their Personal Intercession for them. Monagee's late Victory was really Grand, It is affirm'd that near 800 Prize Horses have been brought in & between 3 & 400 Prisoners, besides Numbers slain in Action. I was yesterday favour'd with your Letter of the 23d. Ult°: & agreeable to your Commands I shall not fail to inform myself of the Kings Resolution in regard to the Proposal the first Time I see him, and acquaint you with the same immediately. As I have been kept in daily Expectation of seeing the Nabob & Major has Occasion'd me to defer my Ansr: to the Dollowoys last Letter, I cannot do it without first adviseing with them. Of the two Choices he has given That of his Expences I apprehend is too considerable to be engag'd for, and the Fort of Trichinopoly being recommended to me as the last resource I cannot offer to mention a Word of it till I receive your Express Orders. This rendering it necessary that I should confer with the Nabob I have propos'd going to him if the Army does not come here. I should most readily exert myself to the utmost towards Answering the Intent of your Commission to Me, & am only sorry to find I am so little usefull in it. If the bare reconciling of the Nabob & King of Tanjore were your chiefest Views in sending me, The former you see was done before my Arrival as he had just before sent you the full Powers you mention, and my first Letter acquainted you that I found the

Latter ready to consent to any Measures except the surrendry of Trichinopoly, This alone I am particularly enjoin'd not to speak of but upon the last Necessity, and his late Actions must farther convince you is highly necessary to be avoided The Dollowoy has scarce deign'd to answer any of my Letters and tho he has at last done it what is there proffited from it. In what an Idle Situation am I then in? At a great Expence, and neither of Use to my Honble Masters or Myself. I have been now Six Weeks waiting here to procure & hasten out the Troops but to what purpose, My late Letters to the Major, and his being oblig'd to come himself for them at last must fully convince you. My Intercourse with the King has been ever far from Common, and much more so at this Juncture. This I conceive makes me rather detremental than Serviceable, as the Business that is entrusted to me was it sent by Letter would get to him immediately, Whereas I must sometimes wait for many Days before I can get an Audience to communicate it, and even then I am rather talking to his Prime Minister for he receives all Questions and returns most Answers. I could wish these Circumstances, as likewise how greatly my Employ at St: David requires my Presence, were once seriously Consider'd as I cannot think but you will see sufficient Reason to recall me. If not, I would then entreat your Permission to return only for a few Days to settle some Accounts that I have to send to Europe by the Ship that will be now on Dispatch, which as I have Thoughts of following them Myself in September are of the utmost Consequence I was oblig'd to omit them in October past being too much engag'd in Settling the Affairs of my Employ for this Journey. As I am well persuaded this Small Request cannot in the least Affect the publick service, I promise myself that it will meet with your kind Compliance. Inclos'd is my Acco[t]: for December, with the Original Letter from the Dollowoy, I cannot send it you in English as there are some Sentences that my Linguisters find a Difficulty to Explain. If the Sum of it differs from what I have mention'd shall be obliged to you to inform Me,.

I am in due form

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Tanjore the
10th Jan[y]. 1754.

THOMAS COOKE.

In regard to Mr. Cooke's Request for leave to return, Agreed that it cannot be complied with at Present as it is uncertain when Mr. Palk may be able to go to Tanjore to supply Mr. Cooke's place there.

The President lays before the Board the following Letters & the Country Correspondence.

Letter from Major Lawrence Viz[t].

TO THE HONBLE THO[S]. SAUNDERS ESQR.

Sir,

This Day Ramah Naigue Arriv'd in Camp we waited on the Nabob together, who express'd a good deal of Satisfaction at seeing of him.

Ramah Naigue is so hoarse with a violent Cold that he can hardly speak; In two or three Days as he grows better, we shall proceed to Business of which I shall inform you.

This Day a Party of Ours, which I had left at Trichinopoly, In case the King of Tanjore should want them. but he having sent me Word he had no Occasion at present for that Assistance they served to Escort a large Quantity of Provisions to the Camp and the Fort Capt[n]: Polier also came up with them.

Your Letters to the King & the Nabob are very well wrote, full & Satisfactory, & must prevent any Jealously [*sic*] of either Side.

[21ms.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

Along with this goes the Nabob's Answer, which gives you full Power to Act as you please & think best.

I have receiv'd yours of the 30th. Decemr. & shall answer it soon.

I wish you Joy of Monagees Success which I suppose you have heard of, & is for Certain as great as reported.

I am

Sir

Camp

12th Jany. 1754.

Your Most Obedient Humble Servant

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Letter from Messrs. Palk & Vansittart dated the 18th. Instant advising that they had receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Dupleix acquainting them that he should dispatch his Deputys on Sunday the 20th: Instant.

Letter from the Marquiss Dupleix dated 16 Instant as entd. in the French Correspondence No. 3 in Answer to the Presidents of the 9th. advising that his Deputys will in a few Days meet ours at Sadrass, but if We persist in demanding for a Basis of the intended Negotiation that Mahomed Ally Cawn be acknowledged as lawfull Subah of the Carnateck he shall look upon it as a declaration that We do not intend to treat.

Agreed that our Commissarys be directed to proceed on the Instructions already given them and propose in the first place that Mahomed Ally Cawn be acknowledg'd for Subah of the Carnateck & that the King of Tanjore enjoy his Country in Peace & if these be admitted the Nabob will agree that some Provision be made fo[*sic*] Rajah Saib.

Two Letters from Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn one of them enclosing Copy of a Saned to him for the Carnateck & Trichinopoly Countrys from Nabob Backshey al Mumaleck Nizamal Muluck Auseph Jah Shahabedy Cawn Bahauder Phatta Jung Saphazalar son to Nabob Gauzedy Cawn deceas'd & advising that by the same Conveyance came Letters to the King of Tanjore the Mysoreans, the Phousdars of Cadapah & Carnole requiring them to act in Alliance with him. In the other Letter he gives the President full Power to conclude a Peace with the French & to that end to allow them what Jagueers he may think proper & stipulate any Sum of Money to be paid them.

The Power from the Nabob to grant Jagueers to the French being too general, as he may hereafter alledge, should he be call'd to an Account, that it was left entirely to us, agreed that the Major be desir'd to discourse with him & desire that he will particularly explain what Jagueers he is willing to grant them & at the same time to intimate to him that as Bawoor & Trivedy which [while ?] they are in Possession of the French lie very Inconvenient for us We should be glad if others were giv'n them in Lieu & that it would be convenient for us if Porto Novo & Vencatapettah remaind in the Hands of the Country Government as our Communication between St. David & Deve Cotah would then be open, Chelimbrum being in the Possession of the Cuddapah Nabob, & in regard to this place our Trade would be free if Covelon, Chingalaput, Conjeveram & the Rout to Arcot remain'd in the Hands of the Country Government.

Agreed that our Commissarys at Sadrass be advis'd of the Saned the Nabob has receiv'd from Gauzedy Cawn's Son, to be us'd as an Argument occasionally.

Letter from Jaffer Ally Cawn Nabob of Rajahmundrum &ca: desiring that We will assist him with five Hundred Europeans to oppose the French; expressing a strong Attachment and Friendship for the English & Enmity to the French whom he says he is determin'd, if We will assist him, to extirpate, that he has granted Leave in Writing to the Chief of Vizagapatam to coin Copper & that if they desire it he will let out all the Villages round the Factory, to them.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [21ms.]

Letter from Viziazam [*sic*] Rauze advising that a Treaty of Peace was on foot between Him & Jaffer Ally Cawn, that he had receiv'd News from Delhi that the Mogul having defeated the rebellious Vizier in a Battle wherein Gawzede Cawn's Son[s?] had Signaliz'd themselves he recompens'd them by appointing one of them Meer Backshey, & on another he conferr'd the Subahship of the whole Decan Country, he desires We will Supply him with one Hundred Barrells of Gunpowder, & that We will give him our Sentiments in regard to Settling the Circars in those Parts.

N B. Jaffer Ally Cawn & Viziaram Rauze have already been wrote to before the Receipt of those Letters as agreed in Consultation the 7th. Instant.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY. POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN. SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

Rec'd a Letter from the Commissary's at Sadrass advising the Arrival of the French Deputys, which with all other Letters & Papers that may Pass in these Conferences are for the greater Perspicuity, order'd to be enter'd in a Section apart, to be bound up with the French Correspondence. 22

Rec'd the following General Letters from Major Lawrence & Mr. Cooke. 23

To THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA: COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd your two Favours of the 30th. Decr. & 8th. January.

The minute Colonel Scott arrives I intend to give him out in Orders as Commanding the Army, which I will resign to him, and stay with him as a Volunteer a few Days if he Chuses; to make him acquainted with some things necessary for him to know. I believe this Method will prevent any Misunderstanding between us.

I have acquainted you in my last the Reason why I stopp'd my Intended March. Howēr I sent a Party as far as Tricitapoly, in order to bring up a Quantity of Provisions, and also to let the King know that party was under his Orders. But he sent me Word he had no Occasion for them but sent Provisions as I desir'd The Detachment return'd and brought every thing up under their Escort with Captn. Polier. Had I marched I had follow'd your Method in leaving the Fort out of Danger, by a strong Garrison, and marching with the Remainder to the Tanjore Country I am still ready if you think proper to move that way.

I could wish at the same time that you send me Copy's of the King of Tanjores Letters, that you would please to let me be acquainted with the Contents of Succojee's.

I have got the Nabob's Consent to the french Officers going away upon their Parole. The Instrument drawn up for them to Sign shall be sent up to you he has thought proper to write to the King of Tanjore first and make him acquainted with his Design.

Captn. Schaub's Allowance of half Batta I must own I think Sufficient that was even given him on Account of the Additional Expence he might be at, in an Enemy's Town: But I think his Situation compar'd with his Brother Officers in Camp, when they are oblig'd upon the whole to pay for Cooleys, and the other Expences attending

[23RD.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

a Campaign, he will be found to be much better of [*sic*] an Augmentation therefore is not my Opinion. His Reward to the Men for their Fidelity. I cannot help looking on it but as an Illtim'd piece of Generosity. I think receiving their Pay as they do, & the Engagements they are under to us, should be of Sufficient Force to make them faithfull without any Reward for barely doing their Duty. But as that Gentleman's Action has been solely intended for the good of the service; In Consideration of that he might be defray'd the Expence he has been at for this Time, letting him know our Opinion of the Subject.

I suppose you have been misinform'd of Captn. Campbell's Affair with Mr. Dupleix; who has assur'd me Strongly on the Contrary. As the Report has given that Gentleman a great deal of uneasyness, I think some Pains ought to be taken to let him know, that you are Satisfy'd of Falshood of it. Concerning the Horse I shall enquire about it.

I have receiv'd your Accounts of the Reinforcement.

There is a young Gentleman at Deve Cotah his Name is Flaction who has been appointed by you to do Ensign's Duty. I should be oblig'd to you if you wou'd grant him a Commission by all Accounts he is very deserving of it he would willingly come to Camp but as he is of use at Deve Cotah I hope his being kept there will be no Bar to his Preferment.

I took the Liberty of opening a Letter address'd to Mr. Saunders from the Moguls Vackeell for fear there might be anything in it we should know immediately. I have forwarded it some time ago.

I have sent the Bill to Succojee Naick and shall inform you when it is paid.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
and most
Humble Servant
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp
16th. Jany. 1754.

To THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

My last to you was under date the 12th. Instt of which the annex'd is Duplicate. I therein referred to your Honour &ca. the answering the Dolloway's Letter to Me, His Demands being such as I know not what to say to them. However upon Farther Reflection as it would be ill Manners were I not to make some Reply to him, I have wrote him this Day as ℔ Copy inclos'd being intended for Form sake only. The Major informs me that the Nabob still says he is unable to raise any ready Money & that he has no other Method of complying with Morarow's Proposal but to apply to you.

I am in due Form
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt: humn Servt.
THOMAS COOKE.

Tanjore
15th Janry. 1754.

N.B. The Purport of Mr. Cooke's Letter to the Dollowoy is that he thinks his Demands Extrordinary, that of being paid all his Expences to this Time is quite unreasonable & as to the Fort it is the Moguls.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

A General Letter to Major Lawrence having been prepard before the Receipt of the foregoing an Addition is now made thereto & sent by Tappies also General Letters to Messrs. Starke & Cooke Vizt. 24.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE Esqr. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

We wrote you under Date the 16th: Instt: since which the President has receiv'd your Letter of the 12th: Instt: as also one from the Nabob inclosing Copy of a Saned said to come from Gauzedecawns Son Nabob Backshey at Mumalick Auseph Jah Nizamal Muluck Shahebedy Cawn Behader Phatta Jung Sapasalar for the Carnateck.

The Nabob in general Terms says he is obedient always to our Advice & will agree to anything we may do, as this is an Affair of Consequence the Expression seems too loose, for should he be hereafter call'd to an Account he may possibly alledge he was compell'd by us to do it, as no Confidence is to be plac'd in these Eastern Princes, We think Caution is necessary, & as he is well acquainted with the particular Jagueers & their Value, which the French have, it seems requisite he should mention what he would be content to allow them, and as Bawoor & Trivady lie very inconvenient to Us, to give them others in their stead, & if Porto Novo & Vencata Pettah remain'd in the Hands of the Country Government, as Chellimbrum belongs to the Nabob of Cuddapah the Communication between St: David & Deve Cotah would be open, and in regard to this Place, if Covelon, Chingalaput Conjeveram & the Route to Arcot were not encroach'd on, our Trade would not be confin'd. Please to communicate this to him and desire his speedy Answer.

We have already advis'd you that the Nabob's Request was no less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ Lacks, which We are not able to comply with, if Abdul bob Cawn & Nazabulla Cawn acted justly by him, the Country in their Possession would furnish a much larger Sum

Inclos'd is Copy of Letters to the Nabob and King of Tanjore & of one from Mr. Dupleix acquainting us that his Commissarys will be at Sadrass the 20th: he still contests the Nabob's Right, submits it to the Examination of the Commissarys, and says he will stand to the Decision of Salabat Jing, & in regard to the King of Tanjore says he is ready to make Peace with him, if he will lay down his Arms: this We think absolutely objecting to the Basis We propos'd & without his acceeding to it, no Peace can ensue. We have answer'd him before, that We look'd upon Salabat Jings Decision as Arbitrary, for if granted that Salabat Jing was Prince of the Decan, he is overaw'd by an Army & therefore not at Liberty to decide, and that as the Nabob certainly had a Saned from Nazir Jing for the Carnateck which was never disputed by any but Chunda & his Allies & would have enjoy'd it peaceably, We think his Right is indisputable & requires no further Examination; & in regard to the King of Tanjore, he cannot be treated with seperately, as he is an Ally to the Nabob & consequently must be included in the general Treaty.

You will remark in Mr. Dupleix's Letter that the King of Tanjore had sent a Vacqueel & wrote Letters to him concerning Peace, the Nabob & We have never been acquainted with it, and may therefore look upon it as a Breach of Friendship, Mr. Cooke writes us he rejects the Proposals of settling Affairs with the Dolloway & delays sending his Troops, as this is a very critical Juncture We are of Opinion if you could do it, your marching to Tanjore and with the Nabob, intimating that it was for the sake of his Country as well as the Nabob's Interest, & at his desire that the War was prosecuted it might have a good Effect.

By the Company's Ship Dragon, from Bengal yesterday, & in five or six Days to proceed to the West Coast, came Military Officers Lieutenant Richard Bishop, Ensign Francis Hayes and Lieutenant Lawrence Witherington of the Train, they will proceed to St. David in order to go to Camp by the first Opportunity.

[24TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

By the Cuddalore Sloop just arriv'd from the Negrais We are advis'd of the Death of Mr. Hunter the 24th: Ultimo, the place is very unhealthy & Provision Scarce, the Treaty with the King not ratify'd & he seems not very inclineable to do it, the Works advance but Slowly as most of the Artificers are sick or dead. We should be glad of your Opinion who you think a proper Person to succeed him there are the Gentlemen of Council Mr. Perceval & Mr. Hopkins.

We are

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servants

THOMAS SAUNDERS &CA. COUNL.

Fort St George.
the 23: Janry 1754.

TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMR. IN CHIEF &CA

Sir,

Since closing the foregoing Letter We have receiv'd yours of the 16th.

We have wrote to Bengal for Collonel Scott to relieve you.

If upon perusing our Sentiments in regard to the King of Tanjore you concurr in them and nothing may have happen'd to make such a Step dangerous, We think yours & the Nabobs marching to Tanjore & talking with the King may produce a good Effect.

If anything of Consequence had been contain'd in the Letters to Suc[cojee] Naigue, the Copies would have been transmitted you, but as he was represented in the French Interest they were no more than matter of Compliment referring him to the King for the rest.

We with you think Captn Schaubs Demand unreasonable; & shall therefore not comply with it.

Since Captn Schaubs arrival here, it appears Mr. Dawson only kiss'd Mr. Dupleix's hand.

Mr. Flaction was not by us but Mr. Starke order'd to do Duty as an Ensign at Deve Cotah he has not been superceded & will have an Ensign's Comon.

We have just receiv'd a Letter from Messrs. Palk & Vansittart advising that the Reverend Father Lavaur & Messrs: de Bausset & Kjean French Commissarys are arriv'd at Sadrass, & that the King of Mysore's Vackeel & two other french Gentlemen were expected the 22d. so that if our Proposals for a Basis are granted the Treaty will beco[me] General, We shall constantly advise you of what occurs.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 24th. Janry. 1754.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [24TH.]

To RICHARD STARKE ESQ^R. DEPUTY
GOVERNOUR OF FORT S^T. DAVID.

Sir,

By the Cuddalore Sloop lately arriv'd from the Negrais we are inform'd of the Death of M^r. Hunter the 24th. Ultimo, We desire your Opinion who you think a proper Person to succeed him there are the Gentlemen of Council M^r. Perceval and M^r. Hopkins.

We are
Sir
Your Affectionate Friends & Servants

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEX^R. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort S^t. George.
the 24th. Janr^y. 1754.

To THOMAS COOKE ESQ^R.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 10th. 12th. & 15th. Instant with your Accounts & Copies of Letters.

The Assurances from us & the late Success of Monajee should we think make the King easy, but by what you write & what We hear, there is Reason to believe the French are negotiating, & We wish it has not proceeded to a great Length ; his desiring the Troops might return shews a Coldness that would cause Suspicion. As all offers of accomodating Affairs with the Dollawoy. Offers that took their Rise from him have by him been rejected, what is to be done but his joining the Army, this We dont imagine he will readily do, whilst a Conference with the French subsist & the most likely Means to effect it, is, as you observe the Major & Nabob's marching. as to the Morattas, you write us he had already flew off from his Proposal & the Nabob says he is not to be trusted What then can be expected from him, and even if he agreed to it We cannot raise $2\frac{1}{2}$ lack which is the Sum the Nabob desires of us. If Abdul BobCawn and Nezabulla Cawn acted honestly by him, We are persuaded they might furnish him with that Sum.

Please to acquaint the King that 'tis above a Month since his Vackeel has been desir'd to receive the Salt Petre & Lead which is not yet done. As the French Commissarys are arriv'[d at Sadrass it] is very uncertain when M^r. Palk can proceed to Camp, We therefore cannot yet write you concerning your Return.

By Advices receiv'd within these few Days from the Negrais We are inform'd of M^r : Hunters Death, We desire your Opinion who you think a proper Person to succeed him there are the Gentlemen of Council, M^r. Perceval & M^r. Hopkins.

We are

Sir

Fort S^t. George

Your Affectionate Friends

the 24th. Janr^y. 1754.

THO^S. SAUNDERS &C^A. COUNCIL.

Major Lawrence in his Letter of the 16th. Instant having fully explain'd himself in regard to the manner in which he proposes to act on Collonel Scott's Arrival here, & the Opinion of the Gentlemen of Council having been taken thereon, it was agreed to write for Collonel Scott & General Letters to the President & Council of Bengal & to the Coll^l were accordingly this Day sent as enter'd in the Copy Book of Letters sent N°. 10 & 11.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

MONDAY THE 28TH: JANY:

'AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR: PRESIDT.
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

General Letters fm. Major Lawrence and Mr. Cooke read as follow.

No. 26. TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

My last was of the 16th: Instant since which a Vackeel from Bollygerow has arriv'd here to the Nabob with Offers to send to his Assistance any Number of Horse from 20,000 downwards. He says he is convinc'd of the English Bravery; and the French are not what they talk themselves off for. He desires the Nabob to send him Word for what number he Chuses, & that they shall be with him in a Month's Time. These Offers are very advantageous if Sincere & his Friendship worth Cultivating.

I take the Opportunity of a Party I send to Combiconum; (to meet Captn Pascall & his reinforcement) to send you Captn. Kilpatrick's returns. That Gentleman's Wound is still open & the Bones continue exfoliating very often.

Captn: Gaup [*sic*] goes down with this Party on his way to Fort St. Davids, to see if a change of Air will be of Service to him to recover the use of his Leg, & for his Health which is much impair'd.

Mr. Spears has declar'd himself unfit for the Field, (as indeed I think he is) & at his Request I have put him in Garrison at Trichinopoly.

Captn. Howes has been so good at my Request, to take the Care of the Troop on himself; he is very capable of it, & the only Officer amongst us that has serv'd in the Horse. In a short Time he will be able to make them as compleat a Body as their Numbers will admit of.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient & most
Humble Servt.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp the
20t: Janry 1754.

No. 27. TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I receiv'd yesterday a Letter from Mr. Cooke, informing me that his Health was so bad, that he was oblig'd to go from Tanjore without waiting for your Answer to the Request he made you, of recalling him.

By what Accounts I can learn, Mr. Palk will not be much longer wanted at Sadrass. I therefore renew my Request (on his return) that he may be sent to Tanjore. The Necessity of having somebody there I hope you are convinc'd of; & at the same Time you may think with me that Gentleman is as proper a Person for the Purpose as anybody. I make no doubt but you will approve of this Proposal, & agree to it; & hope soon We sha[ll] all find the good Effects of it.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt. &
most humble Servt[:]
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp the
22d. Jany 1754.

—*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*— [28TH.]

No. 28.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &cA. Council
of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I wrote you some Days ago, advising you of the Nabob's Intention to release the french Officers Prisoners on their Parole as the best Method. He only waited for the King of Tanjore's Approbation, which having had, they were this Day sent away to Serringham, in order to proceed for Pondicherry their Place of Residen[ce] as you will see by the Annex'd Copy of their Parole which they have given.

We have heard that Mr. Dupleix has at last sent his Commissarys to Sadrass to meet ours. I hope the meeting may be to the purpose as we wish and intend.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obed. & most
Humble Servant
Stringer Lawrence.

Camp the
23rd. Janry. 1754.

Nous Sousignés Officiers François Prisonniers du Nabab Sarazud, Dowlaw, Anaverdee Cawn Bahauder Shaw Hamet Jung. Donnons notre Parole D'Honneur qu'en Cas que le dit Nabab veuille bien nous Permettre de nous rendre á Pondicherry jusqu'au tems de notre Echange, de remplir les Conditions Suivantes.

1mo De nous rendre Incessement a ces Ordres en cas quil juge apropos de revoquer la dite Permission ; sans que le dit Nabob soit tenu de nous faire expliquer les Raisons de ce Changement.

2do De ne faire aucun Service Militaire, de quelque Espece qu'il puisse etre.

3. De ne point nous eloigner de Pondicherry sous quelques pretextes que ce puisse etre, A moins que pour repasser en Europe. Ceux de nous qui repasseroient en Europe et qui reviendront dans ce pais icy, continueront á se soumettre aux Conditions cy dessus : Mais Comme il y a deux de ces Messieurs qui appartienent aux Isles Ils ont la permission d'y retourner sur les dites Conditions.

Nous les dites Officiers ci dessus donnent egalement notre Parole D'honneur, au Major Lawrence Commandant des Troupes Angloisses au Service de L'Honorable Compagnie ; de remplir les Engagemens cy dessus; reconnoissans que c'est a sa requisition, & sur le Parole qui'l a bien voulu donner pour Nous au Nabab, que celuy cy nous relache, sur notre Parole pour passer a Pondicherry.

Nous Supplions le Major Lawrence de croire que nous ne voudrions passer tout au Monde le mettre dans le cas D'essuier quelque reproche a notre Sujet.

Fait et sign'e a Trichinapaly a 23 de Janry en presence de Monsr Callaud Capt 1754.

Leautte.
Bonville.

Poucett.
Carpentier.
LeKnox.
Devalgra.
D'Passage.
Tilly.
Astruc.
Somtrueil.
Eveillon.
Dupentiair.
Defecan.
D'andres.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &cA. Council
of Fort St. George.

Hónble Sir & Sirs,

This Incloses Duplicate of my last dated the 15th. I have since been taken Exceedingly Ill by the Return of my old Disorder the Barbiers, which has suddenly depriv'd me of all Strength that I cannot stir without some one to hold by. This

[28TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

added to a Flux that I have never been free from ever since I have been here giving me no small uneasiness It has oblig'd me to determine on returning to St. David, believing it the only Chance for my Recovery, I should most willingly have waited the Receipt of your Answer to the Request made you in my address of the 10th but dread the Consquence (that has been already seen in many Instances of) staying a Day too late, which leads me not to Doubt but you will readily Excuse this Step. Assuring you that when my Health is restor'd I shall with pleasure return to Either this, or any other Duty on which may think proper to Comand me remaining in due form.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt. humble. Servt.
THOMAS COOKE.

Tanjore
the 19th. Jany. 1754.

Agreed to write to Major Lawrence that We have been advis'd of Balazerows Intention to come into this Province but that we think he is not to be relyed on, yet we shall lose no Opportunity of Cultivating a Friendship with him as he has Promised Govr. Bourchier that he would Assist the Nabab. That Major Lawrence be also advis'd of what has hitherto pass'd at the Conferences at Sadrass and that tho' the Powers the Nabob has given us to treat. are ample yet we think such Powers should always be distinct & separate from other Subjects & we desire he will procure them so, as also Copies under the Caudees Seal of the Saneds to the Nabob from Nazir Jing, Gauzede Cawn, & Gauzede Cawn's Son Shahebedy Cawn. That We much approve the Parole taken of the french Officers on their Enlargement.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence, also a Letter to him from Mr: Charles Knapton Engineer at the Negrais which is as follows.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour of
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir

When I had the Honour to take leave of you at Madrass you was pleas'd to give me the Permission to write to you by all Opportunity's, which has Embolden me to address you by this Conveyance; it would be a peice of Impertinence in me to take up your Honours Time by relating every minute Circumstance since our Arrival when Mr: Hunter & since his Decease Mr: Brooke has so fully laid before your Honour the past & our present Situation of Affairs; therefore I shall proceed to the part of our Honble Masters Affairs that nearly concerns me, & for your Honours better understanding Mr: Hunters intended Works inclos'd is a Sketch of his intention & with great Submission I beg the leave to offer my Opinion. the Situation is on the Bank of the River (mark'd in the plan CC) and a Swamp that every Spring tide overflows & will therefore be necessary to rise all the Ground within the Works about two feet to the great enhancement of the Expence. The H[ill] lies but 1014 feet from the Banks of the River & consequently all the Works that can be built is Subject to any Enemys fire of even Musketts. These Works would take five Hundred working Men for Six or Seven Months to finish; they having their Health the whole time, & it is with Grief I tell your Honour that I fear they would soon fall sick for we have ever since our Arrival here never had less than half our Number sick [&] often not a third able to stir, in the Months of August, Septr: & part of Octr: not five well Men on the Island, not a Man except Myself from the Govr: to the Cooley but has had Less or more of this Lingering Disorder, the Bengalers that arriv'd here the 16th. of last Novr: are now more than half Sick, under this heavy Grievance it will be with utmost Difficulty that we can get any Works finished here, especially those of Mr: Hunter's designing; therefore beg leave to offer what I think will be possible for us with the help of 20 Carpenters to accomplish, & will be a good defence against the

—*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*— [28TH.]

Peguers ; the Peer Mark'd A is already built one foot above the Spring Tide but not so big as it is represented in the Plan being only 105 feet long & 30 feet Wide on this I would build a House of that Length & breadth of Timber (the Produce of the Island) & three Inch Teak Plank which we can get from Persaim ; we now have one Hund^{d}. & 30 Teak Plank some Timbers & daily Cutting more. On the lower floor of the House we can mount some Guns about 20 to fire through Ports in the Sides & Ends of the house like a Ship, there will be room for the Soldiers on the same Floor & manner as on board of Ship the upper floor will be divided into Apartment for the Govr. Officers & store Rooms for Provision Water & as every one will be here under Cover it will not be liable to the Musketry from the Hill & the Peguers being little Acquainted with the use of great Guns they can do but little harm if this should have your Honour's Approbation with the number of 20 Carpenters I shall with pleasure execute it, as it will be an immediate Defence & no hindrance to any other Works being carried on that our Honble Masters shall afterwards think necessary for the Defence of this Place but it is my Opinion that a Work on the Hill will be the only Defenceable Thing against the Peguers should the Company ever find it worth any further Expence. If your Honours should on perusing M^{r}. Hunters Papers, Order Persaim the Head Settlement then all the Works more than such a House as I have taken the Liberty to describe would be useless on this Spot of Ground, the Places in my Opinion to keep out an European Force which would then be the only Enemy to fear, is a Battery on M^{r}. Taylors Point Pagoda or some one of those Points on Y^{e} great Negrais side, any Ship in the S. W. Monsoon being Oblig'd to keep the great Negrais on board till they come a brest of M^{r}. Taylor's Point & then must haul directly to the little Negrais side: If this House was once built on the Plan I have described, being sensible of the Inconvenience of having all the Stores above stairs to avoid that & much increase the Strength as well as Commodiousness, I would at leisure add 36 feet to the breadth of the Peer 18 feet on each side, & 18 feet at the End next the River by which addition the Guns will be without the first House & by Covering the Guns will admit of lodging for the Soldiers & Verander to the upper Rooms, by which means they will be more Convenient & the lower floor will make very fine Store Rooms.

As M^{r}. Hunter in his Life Time was very capable of carrying on & designing what Works was to be on this Island & not having an Opportunity to address your Honour I took the Liberty by the Elliot bound to Bengal Novr. the 9th. to beg Coll^{l}. Scott would recall me where I might be further improving myself & more use to my Honble Masters as this Place could not imploy two Engineers I hope I shall not Incur your Displeasure by that Action, nor the Signing Jointly with the Officers a Petition concerning our Losses by the Coffries as it is my Duty & ever shall be my study to be Worthy the Liberty of Subscribing myself.

Honble Sir

Your most Obedient hum^{ble}. Servant

CHARLES KNAPTON.

Negrais the
11th: Janry : 1754.

Order'd that Copy of M^{r}. Knapton's Letter with Copys of those from M^{r}. Hunter & M^{r}. Brooke be sent to Major Lawrence.

Abdul Bob Cawn advises that he is arriv'd with his Army in the Plains of Trivilore & waits for our Forces to Join him before he can Engage the Enemy who are within Six Coases of that Place raising Disturbances.

Abdul Bob Cawn having offer'd Five Thousand Pagodas which Antazey Punt is ready to pay for the Expences of a small Detachment of our Troops, Agreed that the said Sum be receiv'd & that a Party of Thirty of our Military with one Company of Seapoys from Arcot & another from Chingalaput be orderd to Join him, as they are not design'd to march any considerable distance & may therefore in case of Danger have timely Notice to return to their respective Garrison.

[28TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*——

Letter from Mr. Maunsell at Camp, enclosing a General Return of the Forces there & one from Captn. Kilpatrick with a Return of those in Trichinopoly. Captn. Pigou at Arcot writes that Mootas Ally Cawn had releas'd one of the Men who was taken with Lieutenant Smith and promises to release them all in a few Days. In regard to the Salt Provision for Store in that Garrison which has been represented as unfit for use he says that it has often been since he took the Command of that Fort & continued very sound till sound [*sic*] till after the Monsoon.

The Proceedings at the Conferences between our Commissarys & those of the French at Sadrass requiring Dispatch the Letters receiv'd from thence have been immediately Communicated to the Gentlemen of Council & answers return'd as enter'd in the Section apart in the French Correspondence.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Ensign Paccard of the Bengal Detachment requesting to be admitted on this Establishment & that he may have Leave at present to go to Bengal to settle his Affairs & return hither again, as to the first the Board do not think it proper to gratify him, but consent to his going to Bengal that Captn. Saunderson of the same Detachment who some time ago apply'd for & obtain'd leave to return to Bengal but alter'd his Intention do also proceed thither the Gentlemen there having Appointed Captn. Howes to command the Detachment.

Order'd the Captn. Lieutenant Witherington, Lieutt. Bishop & Ensign Hayes lately arriv'd from Bengal proceed to Camp by the first Opportunity.

As it is very probable the Conferences at Sadrass will shortly be at an end Mr. Dupleix seeming inflexible Agreed that the Dragon be detain'd a few Days that our Honble Masters may be advis'd of the Event by her & a Duplicate forwarded by the Durrington.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

31. General Letter to Major Lawrence agreeable to last Consultation sign'd & sent as follows.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR.

We wrote you under Date the 24th. Instt. & have since receiv'd your Letters of the 20th. 22d. & 23d. Instt.

It has been for these three Months reported that Ballazerow would come this Way & by some it was said Salabad Jing also but We have not any Advice of their having yet moved Ballazerow assur'd Govr. Bourchier he would assist the Nabob We think no Dependance can be had on his Promises at the same Time shall omit no opportunity of Cultivating a Friendship with him.

We have receiv'd from Mr. Maunsell a General Muster Roll of the Force in Camp & from Captn. Kilpatrick one of those in Trichinopoly with Accounts of Provisions & Stores.

We approve of Captn. Howes comanding the Troop.

Agreeable to what before wrote you the French Deputys arriv'd at Sadrass the 20th: Vizt. Father Lavaur Messrs. Basset & Kjean & the Mysore Vackeel our Proposals were deliver'd & answer'd by a Memorial qs. a List of Several Papers said to be Saneds granted Mr. Dupleix for the Government of the Carnateck A Reply to our Proposals which is introduc'd by a Demand of the Prisoners being releas'd & Concludes with Several Reasons objecting to the Nabobs right & and then follows their Proposals that the Settlement of Madrass shall be free from an Annual Tribute & Ponamalee Secur'd to us that a Provision shall be made for the Nabob, that Peace should be granted to the King of Tanjore when he laid down his Arms, that

——*FORT ST· GEORGE, JANUARY 1754.*—— [31ST·]

Measures be concer[ted] for Satisfying the King of Mysore & that in Consideration of these Advantages the English should evacuate all Places they were in Possession of belonging to the French & leave the Country to be govern'd by Salabad Jing's Order. our Commissarys proceeded to an Examination of the Saneds upon perusing some of them wherein were great Defects Father Lavaur refus'd a further Scrutiny till the Saned from Najarjing investing Mahomed Ally with the Government was produc'd on being told the Originals were in the Nabob's Hands & that Copys should be sent for their Perusal when Father Lauvar declar'd absolutely. Mr· Dupleix would never Consent to Nabob Mahomed Ally's being Subah of the Carnateck, arguments so extravagent & unreasonable have been easily answer'd & We have given them our final Proposals. As soon as ever we are a little disengag'd from our present multiplicity of Business Copys shall be sent you.

Tho' the Nabob in his Letters has giv'n us full Power to treat in his Behalf & declar'd that he would Confirm whatever We agreed on yet on these Occasions a Power for Treaty Seal'd with his Seal & not interspers'd with other Subjects is necessary & he should send such an one immediately as also Copys of his Saneds from Nazir Jing. Gauzede Cawn & Gauzede Cawn's Son attested by the Coudee.

By what has already pass'd we have reason to believe Our Endeavours to promote a Peace will prove abortive & the Conference soon break up when We shall if We can prevail on him send Mr· Palk to you.

The Parole the Nabob has taken of the French Officers for their enlargement We think extreamly proper, & hope they will not again dishonour their Nation by a Breach of it.

Enclos'd are Copys of the Several Advices We have receiv'd from the Negrais whereon We desire your Opinion.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

THOS· SAUNDERS.
CHAS· BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR· WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS· BOURCHIER.

Fort St· George
the 31st· Janry 1754.

P.S. We also enclose you Copy of a Letter from Coll· Scott to the President for your Perusal & Opinion.

Letter from the President to the Marquiss Dupleix No· 4 sign'd & sent as enter'd in the French Correspondence. FEBRUARY 3.

AT A CONSULTATION

present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR: GOVR· PRESIDT· MONDAY THE 4TH
CHARLES BODDAM HENY: POWNEY
ALEXR· WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

General Letter from Major Lawrence, one from Richard Starke Esqr· & two from Thomas Cooke Esqr· read as follow.

[4TH·] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR·
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA· COUNCIL
OF FORT ST· GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 16th· Instt· with the Copies of the several Letters.

The Nabob writes to you tomorrow concerning the subjects you have desir'd his Sentiments on Inclos'd I send you the Copy of a Letter from the Dolloway he insists still on what he is sure We cannot, nor will not grant.

Your Answer to Mr· Dupleix carries that conviction with it, which was necessary for to fairly expose the seeming plausibility of his. I do it but barely Justice, when I say it is wrote with great Spirit & Judgement.

Ramah Naigue still continues Ill, I shall make use of him as Occasion requires.

I am very glad you Intend sending Mr· Palk up. Affairs remain in the same situation. the French have made an Inroading in the Turriours Poligars Country which they have Plunder'd.

The last Letters I had from Captn· Pascall were on the 25th· at which time he was at Miaveram in his Way to Camp.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt· & most humble· Servt·

Camp the
27th: Janry· 1754.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

P.S. I was concern'd not to see the Presidents Name Sign'd to the last General Letter. I hope the Occasion of it (which must be his want of health) may soon be removed.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR·
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA· COUNCIL
OF FORT ST· GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

I am favour'd with your Letter of the 24th· Instt· advising of Mr· Hunter's Death at the Negrais, & desiring my Opinion who should Succeed him which is as follows, That if one of the Council can be sent without Inconveniency to the service of the Coast he should proceed; if none of them can be spared, Mr: Perceval who is next in Standing I am of opinion is a proper Person.

I am with Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Fort St· David.
28th· January 1754.

RICHD· STARKE.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR·
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA· COUNCIL OF
FORT ST· GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

The Occasion of this is only to annex Duplicate of my Address to you from Tanjore under date the 19th· Instant, & to acquaint you of my return here in the same bad state of Health as therein advis'd of I persuade myself that the Nature of my

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [4TH.]

Disorder & the indifferent Habitation that I have been oblig'd to dispense with will sufficiently convince you of the Necessity I was under of coming to this Resolution as in that Situation I could have had no hopes of Recovery. I rely therefore that this proceeding will not be disapprov'd, and remain in Due Form.

Fort St. David.
28th. January 1754.

Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obedt. humle. Servt.
THOMAS COOKE.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &ca: Council of
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I am favour'd with your Letter of the 24th. & am pleas'd to find your Sentiments relating to the Affair[s] at Camp Concur so entirely with what I wrote. When I left Tanjore I could perceive no alteration there for the better, n[or] do I think the Dolloway is the least inclin'd to come to an [Ac]commodation on any other Terms but the last Article, Could Morarow be bought off, which my Letter of the 12th: acqua[int]ed you he had given a fresh opening for, & would the King of Tanjore but Vigorously Assist with his Troops, I am much of Opinion some favourable Terms might soon be procur'd but the Nabob's Plea of Distress Convinces me that the first of these can only be done by you, and the latter I am well assured will never be prevail'd on any other Way but by the Nabob & Majors personal Application which I believe they have Thoughts of Trying very shortly.

I am much concern'd for the Death of Mr. Hunter, as that Settlement is so lately establish'd and as I apprehend is yet very unsettled, I think it highly requisite he should be Succeeded by a Person of the most approv'd Conduct, The properest I can mention for it is Mr: Perceval, but should his Age & infirmities oblige him to decline it, I am then of Opinion it should by all Means be fix'd on one of the Council whom you may best approve till our Honble Masters Pleasure be known.

I am in due form
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humle. Servt.
THOMAS COOKE.

Fort St. David,
28th. Janry. 1754.

Agreed to write to Major Lawrence that We are of Opinion the King of Tanjore will not Join till the Nabob pay him a Visit with the Army, We therefore think it a Measure that should be taken if it can be done with Safety.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence &ca: as follow.

Letter from Mr. Archibald Keir Surgeon at Camp representing the hard Duty he & the other Surgeon there are oblig'd to undergo for want of Assistants & requesting that this Inconvenience may be remedyed, & desiring also to be allow'd Batta from the Time he left this place till he went from St: David to Camp as he kept himself constantly in readiness at a considerable Expence to proceed on that Service.

Agreed that Major Lawrence be acquainted we would very readily supply the Army with proper Assistants to the Surgeons if it were in our Power but that at present we have not any who can be spared & as to Mr. Keirs request to be allow'd Batta from the Time he left this Place, that We do not think it reasonable.

Captn. Pigou at Arcot writes that all the Prisoners at Velore have been set at Liberty except Lieut: Smith who Expects to be releas'd in a few Days.

[4TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

Letter from Captn. Campbell at Chingalaput representing the necessity of having some further Repairs made & Works added to that Fort, The President acquaints the Board he had discours'd with Lieutenant Barker who was sent to Chingalaput to survey the Works & that what appears most necessary to be done at present is the Counterscarp of the Ditch which having given way the Glacis is in Danger of falling into the Ditch Order'd that it be repair'd & the Expence charg'd to the Nabob.

Letters from Ramah Naigue at Camp advising that he was met at Trincatapelly in his way to Camp by Vackeels from Morowar, Tondamin &ca. Pollygars in the Trichenopoly Country who made proposals to him to be communicated to the President in regard to settling *that Country representing that it was formerly under a* Gentou Government untill Chundah faithlessly breaking his Engagements with the Queen subverted it, that on their Application to Nazir Jung he promis'd to restore the former Government but dying before he had accomplish'd it they are desirous the English should have the Honour of putting the Gentous again in Possession of the Country; & that in such Case they need not be under any Apprehensions on Account of the Moneys they have expended in the present War & in regard to the Mysore Dol[lo]way they offer to send a Deputation of ten of their Body to tr[eat] with him of peace which should he reject they will take [up] Arms against him. The Scheme of restoring the Gentou Government having already been communicated to the Major, a[s] one part of the Business of Ramah Naigue's Journey Agreed that Ramah Naigue be order'd to confer with the Major on that Subject & not to do any thing without his & the Nabobs Concurrence.

Letter from the Nabob, again proposing the raising three Lacks of Rupees to be given to Morarow as a Consideration for quitting the Mysoreans & returning to his own Country.

The Major Nabob, & King of Tanjore have already been Acquainted that it is impossible for us to assist with any part of that Sum, besides the President acquaints the Board that from his private Intelligence he has Reason to believe Morrarow has no Intention of returning to his Country & that this pretended offer of Morarow's is only a Scheme of the King of Tanjores to bribe him not to plunder his Country.

Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn enclosing a Paper sent him by Mootas Ally Cawn Phousdar of Vellore containing his Demands, & the Form of an Oath of Alliance with Nabob Anaverde Cawn which he offers to take if they are granted,

The President also produces the Draught of his Answer to Abdul Bob Cawn, wherein he recommends an Addition to the Oath to be taken by Mootas Ally Vizt: that he will acknowledge Nabob Anaverde Cawn for Subah of the Carnatick, & will pay obedience to his Orders & Assist him against his Enemy's which the Board Approve, as they do also of Letters to the Nabob, & Mysore Dallaway; & also to the King of Tanjore in Answer to a long one from him the most material Circumstance in which is the Demand he desires may be made for him at the Conferences Vizt: Mr: Dupleix having in Chunda's Time extorted a Writing from him (The King of Tanjore) whereby he gave up his Right to the four Magans & remitted the usual Tributes of Caricall he requires the Restitution of the Magans and the payment of the Tribute, that his Country be not molested, nor his People protected in Caricall.

Abdul Bob Cawn having advis'd that his Elder Brother Mahaphooz Cawn Bahadar was arriv'd with his Family at Nellore and desiring leave for them to reside at Madrass; Agreed that they have free Permission to settle here,

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

Sign'd & sent General Letter to the Major Lawrence dated this Day as follows.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^R. COMMANDER IN CHIEF.
OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 27th. Ultimo. We wrote you the 31st.

Inclos'd are Copies of Letters to the Nabob King of Tanjore & Dallaway, with the Original of the Last, if you see a proper opportunity & approve it, it may be sent him. The Mysore Vackeel seems very sensible that if We came to any conclusion with the French his Master must be content with the Terms We pleas'd to give him— the Letter will at least shew him M^r. Dupleix's chickanery.

Please to press the Nabob as soon as possible to send the Attested Copies of his Sanneds as this is the only thing they have with the least shew of Reason urg'd during their whole Conference.

We are firmly of Opinion the King of Tanjore will not move till you & the Nabob have discours'd with him & then not till the Harvest is collected.

Morarow has no Intentions to return to his Country he has remonstrated to the Dallaway the Losses he has lately sustain'd in horses who has made him easy by a Large Sum of Money the two & a half Lack of Rupees to be rais'd on us was a Trick of the Nabob & the King of Tanjore by what we can learn as the Latter finding the Moratta's making inroads agreed to pay this Contribution that the harvest might be collected. If Ballazerow should as the King of Tanjore so often writes come this way, Morarow & the Mysore Dallaway would either Depart immediately or by a large Sum buy him off.

We don't conceive M^r. Dupleix will accept any reasonable Terms his chief designs seem to be to furnish himself with materials for a plausible Remonstrance to Europe, to amuse & inform himself of the Supports on which we found the Nabob's Title & set to work to oppose & Invalidate them by Sanneds of his own & this with him is not difficult as [*sic*] as he has already without sending to Delly supply'd the place of a Sanned said to come from the Mogull which was found defective with another directly from Pondicherry.

The Letter not sign'd by the President was through the Hurry of that Dispatch.

Captain Lieutenant Witherington of the Train Lieutenant Bishop & Ensign Hayes who lately arriv'd here from Bengal were sent from hence a few Days ago in the Lisle to Fort S^t: David whence they are to proceed to you & we believe Captn: Lin will soon be able to follow.

We have receiv'd a Letter from M^r. Keir Surgeon in Camp complaining of the hard Duty he is oblig'd to. bear for want of proper Assistants & desiring to be allow'd Batta from the Time he went from hence. We do not think the last request reasonable, & as to Assistants we shou'd very readily supply you if it were in our Power but We have not one that can at any Rate be spar'd at present. Inclos'd is Copy of our last Letter to M^r. Dupleix.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

THO^S. SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEX^R. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCH[IER.]

Fort S^t. George.
the 6th: Febr^y. 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

AT A CONSULTATION

THURSDAY THE 7TH.

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR: WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President acquaints the Board that all the Proposals made by our Commissarys at Sadrass having been rejected by those of the French who declar'd that Mr: Dupleix never would consent to Mahomed Ally Cawn's enjoying the Carnateck, our Gentlemen finding it to no purpose to continue there any longer as the french still insisted on the legality of their Saneds tho they had been found defective they deliver'd their final Reply & Objections to the French Demands, took their Leave and are return'd, but before they left Sadrass they [*sic*] French Deputys deliver'd them an Answer to their last Letter which is now laid before the Board, & as it contains some new matter Agreed that an Answer be return'd with a Summary of the whole Proceedings at the Conference with Remarks thereon that it may the more evidently appear to our Honble Masters & the whole World that whatever Professions Mr. Dupleix may make of his inclinations for Peace his Views are to possess the whole Country.

The Country Correspondence Read.

Letter from Ramah Naigue advising that Tonduman, & Moravar, had again sent to him to press the Scheme of making a Gentou King of Trichenopoly earnestly desiring him to recommend it to the President's Consideration.

The Detachment agreed in Consultation the 28th. Ultimo to be sent to Abdul Bob Cawn being in Readiness a General Letter is now sign'd containing Orders to Ensign Paccard who is to Conduct it directing him to proceed to Trivatore & there wait for Advices from Abdul Bob Cawn w[h]ere to Join him, that as the Intention of making this Detachment is to cover & protect the Country between Arcot & Chingalaput he is not to proceed further or undertake any other Expedition without particular Orders.

A Letter from the President to Abdul Bob Cawn is now read & approv'd, acquainting him that as with this [*sic*] Assistance of this Party he will be enabled to collect the Revenues it is expected he should contribute something towards discharging his Brothers Debt to the Company.

Messrs: Starke and Cooke having given their Opinions (in their several Letters dated the 28th: Ultimo enter'd in the Minutes of last Consultn:) with regard to the Person to be sent to the Negrais, & as the Cuddalore will shortly be in readiness to proceed thither, The Board are of Opinion that no time should be lost in making the Appointment that the Person pitch'd on may have sufficient Notice to prepare, & the Majority of the Board being of Opinion that it is not Essential one of the Council should be nam'd it was then consider'd who of the Company's Servants below the Council should be appointed, & after some Debate it was agreed to determine it by Ballot which being taken on casting it up there were.

	Votes.
For Mr. William Perceval, including the Votes of Messrs. Starke & Cooke who declare positively for him in case one of the Council should not be sent	three—3
For Mr. Charles Hopkins	two—2
For Mr. Samuel Ardley	three—3

Mr. Hopkins having a Minority & Messrs. Perceval & Ardley an equality it was agreed to proceed to a Second Ballot for one of the two latter omitting Mr. Hopkins, which being taken the Votes were

	Votes.
For Mr. Perceval	two—2
For Mr. Ardley	four—4

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [7TH.]

The Majority being for M^r. Ardley he is declar'd duly elected.

THO^S. SAUNDERS.
CHA^S. BODDAM.
HENRY. POWNEY.
A^R. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^S. BOURCHIER.

AT A CONSULTATION. MONDAY THE 11TH:

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOVERN^R. PRESID^T.
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEX^R: WYNCH JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Minutes of last Consultation being read the President observ'd to the Board that on reconsidering the Ballot taken then for the Appointment of a Successor to M^r. Hunter there appear'd to him to be an Error in it, for as the Votes of Messrs: Starke & Cooke (who declare positively for M^r: Perceval & mention no other Person under Council) were admitted on the first Ballot he is of Opinion they ought not to be rejected on the Second as they are Positive & fix'd after some Debate the Members of the Board differing in their Opinions the question *whether the Votes of Messrs. Starke & Cooke ought to have been admitted on the second Ballot or not* was put & carried in the affirmative, which making the Numbers for M^r: Perceval & M^r: Ardly equal & of course determinable by the President's casting Vote, it was mov'd that as the Ballot was declar'd irregular it would be more methodical to Annull it entirely & proceed to a new Election without Ballot which the whole Board consenting to, the list of the Honble Company's Servants was laid on the Table, & each Member of the Board being then seperately call'd upon for his Suffrage & the Votes of Messrs. Starke & Cooke being also admitted the Majority were for M^r: Charles Hopkins. & thereupon a general Letter is order'd to be prepar'd to be sent this Evening acquainting him of his being appointed to take charge of the Expedition & settlem^t. at the Negrais that he is therefore without loss of Time to take & Jointly with M^r. Brickenden sign an Account remains of Stores &c^a: at Deve Cotah which with the Charge of the Fort he is to deliver over to M^r: Brickenden and proceed hither with all possible Expedition as Preparations are making to return the Cuddalore Sloop very Shortly to the Negrais.

General Letter from Major Lawrence & one from him to the President read as follow.

[TO THE] HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R.

Sir,

You have very justly laid down to me the Situation of our Affairs, The views of the Enemy, & what you thought was best to pursue in case the Peace did not take Place.

Now Sir give me leave to offer you my Sentiments on the Methods I think best to be pursued, In order to Advance our mutual Endeavours for the publick Good: as also my Reasons, you then will be able to Judge, & at Liberty to Act as you think proper.

The great Cause of the Enemy's Advantages are you Say their having two Armies on Foot very true: but as We have not Troops sufficient to oppose them both; We should Endeavour to collect our whole Force, & attack one of them:

[11TH·] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

which I think we may do & warrant its Success. Their Distance is so great that they cannot come to the Assistance of each other before We have collected our People, and struck the Blow or if they do attempt it, our End will be equally answer'd by obliging them to move from the Northward where they are of such Use and the Country only kept in awe by them. You know the Enemy have no Force but what is there or here ; why need We have Towns better Garrison'd than them ; a Force barely to maintain those that have Prisoners in them is Sufficient, which may be done by seapoys. Collect all the Europeans you can, From Arcot Chinglyput, Madrass & St· Davids raise some fresh Seapoys to supply their Room during their absence, Press Abdul Bob Cawn to spare half his Troops, who has nothing to fear in the Arcot Country, & believe me if the Enemy stay at Serringham, I can flatter myself giving you the same Account of them I did once before.

The King of Tanjore will by that means be effectually Secur'd, & when he sees us ready, & hearty to act will also do the same on his side ; for Nothing keeps him [thus fluc]tuating ; but our seeming inactivity. Succojee is not so much a Favorite as before, & Monajee is to be sent to Command when the Troops come. Now ! is the Time for Mr· Palk for by the Letter I receiv'd from him to Day, As much will be done at Sadrass as We expected.

Sir if We were even unluckly enough not to Succeed, Our Affairs would neither be the better or Worse of our Attempt. My Retreat is secure to Trichinopoly, & there We can lay under the Walls, where nothing can hurt us, & stay till our Ships Arrive ! What can they do more ? The Troops that you send me may march back to their respective Garrisons & Countries. I will do nothing rashly nor venture many men, but proceed leisurely : It will take more time but save more lives.

Do not think of Morarow he is not worth purchasing, could Money be got from those People you mention, apply it for levying Seapoys there are Men enough to be got, it would be but an Expence of two or three Months (as the Affair must be over by that Time) therefore I think it would not be so great a hardship were We to Advance the Money for the Nabob.

I am really much concern'd for Mr· Hunter's Death as you are the best Judge of the Gentlemen's Capacitys on the Coast. I canot pretend to recommend any one you are sensible it must be a Man of Resolution, Spirit & Sense. The beginnings of Settlements are the most difficult & require such People to manage them.

I shall make use of Ramah Naigue as you desire. I see with you there is nothing to be done with the Dolloway.

Buccanjee complains he cannot raise Money easily. I beg you will consult means not to let us want so necessary an Article.

Col· Scotts Arrival would give me more Satisfaction than I well can express. Pray Sir use your Endeavours for it. I am so Infirm that my Health is not a Minute to be depended on & quite renders me incapable of Acting I would stay as long as I can, but be not surpris'd should you hear of my being set out for the Settlements.

If you approve my Scheme nothing remains but the speedy Execution of it, As you very well know the Arrival of a Europe Ship or two may overturn it all.

Would you Honour Mr· Palk with having his Opinion. You know his Capacity & good will for the Service.

I am

Sir

Camp the

2d· February 1754.

Your most Obedt humle· Servt·

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

P. S. Captn· Pascall arriv'd two days ago with his Party to Camp ; & was oblig'd the Day after to go into the Fort on Account of his Health Captn· Gardiner is very much indispos'd & I am afraid must soon follow.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [11TH.]

To the Honble Thos: Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &ca. Council
of Fort St. George.

No. 28.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd yours of the 24th. Janry. in Answer to mine of the 12th & 16th.

I have communicated to the Nabob what you have desired concerning his more Satisfactory Answer; as to the Jagueers he intends for the French. He has promis'd to write fully to day on that Subject. I also told him of those Places you have mention'd which if given up might endanger the Communication necessary for the carrying on our Trade. which he has Acceeded to.

I wrote the 2d of this Month to the [Presidt.] with my Opinion on the Operations that seem'd to [me] the best to be pursued at the present Juncture; [which] if not thought proper upon your Answer, I [believe] my march to Tanjore would be right. If We [take] the Steps I propose, I dare Answer for the King of [Tanjore's] joining heartily in the Cause. He has so often [mention'd] his Surprise at Abdull Bob Cawn's not coming [to the] Assistance of his Brother: & We not able to give him Satisfactory Answers why he did not but that being [remov'd] he can have no more reasons for his Delays, nor do [I believe] he would make any.

I have read Mr. Dupleix's Letter; which does not carry that Conviction with it that Truth al[w]ays does which he so much relies on for the Fairness of his Cause. His Answer to our Appeal to the Mogul Court is very We[ak] *How can We observe that Progression through the inferior Courts, When we deny their Validity. Appealing to them from us would be allowing their Legality, which if We did, we have no Occasion to remove it to a higher Tribunal.*

Salabat Jing's Friendship which he so much boasts of may perhaps in Time come to light. For if the Letters that the Nabob receives from his Vackeel at Aurungabad are to be depended on, they may soon give Proofs in that part of the World of their Discontent, that will convince Mr. Dupleix they are hated more than lov'd.

The Nabob denies his having receiv'd any Supplies of Money from Arcot.

It would be proper Gentlemen to leave in the Fort a Supply of Money. there is now no more in it than will defray the Expences of the Garrison for the present Time a Sum should always be left there in reserve in Case the want of it might prove an Obstruction to any Intended March of ours.

I return you many Thanks Gentlemen for having wrote for Coll: Scott to relieve me he cannot come too soon.

I hope you will have receiv'd by this the Letter from the Mogulls Vackeel; as it went by Mistake a Day or two after I had given you advice of it. The Purport of it was an Account of the different Firmaunds that were sent; which the Nabob receiv'd, & an Account of the Troubles in the Country.

I refer you also to my Letter to the President for my Answer as to my Opinion Ask'd, concerning a Successor to Mr: Hunter. with this goes a Duplicate of that Letter, for fear any Accident might prevent its coming to hand, as it requires a speedy Answer.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient & most

Humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence.

Camp the

4th February 1754.

[11TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

Captain Charles Campbell at Chingalaput writes that the Morattœs &c^{a}· are plundering & burning the Country that 500 Horse, 300 Peons & 600 Pandarys were on the Eighth in the Neighbourhood of Grandypollam & that several flying Party's are about Vandywash & Outrimalore that on the ninth a Body of the Enemy plunder'd & burnt Several Villages within a few Miles of Chingalaput and that the People are in great Consternation. He also writes that he had detected three Cooley Fellows in carrying Letters from the french Prisoners to Pondicherry that he had sent them hither & desires that if they appear Guilty by the Depositions he has taken & incloses, they may be sent back to Chingalaput to be punish'd there as an Example to others.

The Plan Major Lawrence lays down for his Operations the Board approve if they could be carried into Execution with Safety, but as the Enemy are again raising Commotions in these Parts, it is not thought adviseable at present to withdraw any part of the Garrisons from Arcot or Chingalaput as their whole Force is absolutely necessary not only for the Defence of those Forts but to keep the Enemy in Awe & prevent their Ravaging & burning the Country & Villages round about Agreed that the Major be acquainted with our Motives for not complying at present with his Proposal but that as soon as the Enemy are retir'd we shall send him all the Force that can possibly be spar'd & in the mean Time We shall write to Abdul Bob Cawn to prevail on his Brother Mauphez Cawn to send to the Nabob's Assistance the Thousand Horse he has brought with him from the Northward.

The Commissary acquaints the Board that he is inform'd there are sixteen Topasses amongst the french Prisoners at Chingalaput who would probably be glad to take Service with Us Agreed that Captn· Campbell be directed to propose it to them & that if they Consent they be entertain'd for the Negrais.

In regard to the Cooleys sent Prisoners from Chingalaput for Conveying Letters from the Prisoners to Pondicherry Agreed that they be sent back to Chingalaput to be severely whipped there as a just Punishment for their Crime & a Terror to others.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Messrs· Lavaur De Bausset & De K'jean enclosing one to them from one of the French Officers who were Prisoners at Trichinopoly and lately releas'd on their Parole complaining of the great Hardships he suffer'd in his confinement. Order'd that a Copy of the said Letter be sent to Major Lawrence.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence Viz^{t}·

Letter from Nabob Annaverde Cawn, wherein he gives it as his Opinion that Salabat Jing cannot come into this Province which he supports with several very good & Probable Reasons, but should he come, he is of Opinion his stay can be but short & that he may be easily oppos'd or if that should not be thought advisable he would be well pleas'd if the English were to join him with four or five Hundred Men & dismiss the French which he (the Nabob) says he is convinc'd of by Letters from Court. In regard to the Killedar of Vellore he is willing to grant him whatever he possess'd in his Father's life time, that as to the sending a Person to Serangapatam to treat with the King of Mysore himself he thinks it will not be amiss though there is no great Reason to expect Success as the head Dallaway with the King is Brother to the Dallaway at Syrangham & will therefore most probably support his Measures. he mentions that he is advis'd from Salabit Jing's Camp the Ministers there disagree with the French, and that a Peace is concluded at Delli between the Patcha & Vizier.

Letter from Nawzeraz the Mysore Dallaway to M^{r}· Cooke wherein he recapitulates all his Transactions with the Nabob since he first came to his Assistance argues in support of the Justness of his Demand & concludes with demanding the Fort or to be paid his Expenses.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [11TH.]

As Major Lawrence writes very pressingly for Mr. Palk to go to Tanjore Order'd that the Secretary acquaint him of the Majors Request & that the Board think it will be doing the Company an Acceptable Service.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present THURSDAY THE 14TH:

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESI[DENT.]
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWN[EY]
ALEXR: WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

General Letter from Captn: Kilpatrick at Trichenopoly read advising that they are in hopes soon to be able to compleat the Store of Provisions in Trichen[opoly]. That he shall draw on us for one Thousand Pagodas enclosing the Accounts of Trichenopoly for the Month of January.

As the Accounts hitherto receiv'd of the Provision in Tritchenopoly mention only what is actually there at the time but not the Particulars of the Receipts & Issues Order'd that the Secretary write to Mr: Thomas Maunsell who acts as Commissary in Camp to send one General Account of Receipts, Issues, with the produce & remains since the Provisions have been laid in on the Company's Account, & that a like Account be sent us Monthly.

The Secretary Acquaints the Board that agreeable to Order of last Consultation he had acquainted [the Reve]rend Mr. Palk with their Message in regard to the Major's Request to have him at Tanjore, & that he express'd a great willingness to undertake any thing that might be thought for the general Service, but having at present sundry Affairs to settle he hoped it would be of no bad Consequence if his departure was deferr'd till the Dispatch of the Durrington to Europe when he would readily proceed. Mr. Palk having always shewn a chearfull complyance whenever his services have been desired, and as the Dispatch of the Durrington will not much exceed a Fortnight the Board do not think his request unreasonable and 'tis agreed to represent it to the Major.

The Rich Pallanquin prepar'd for a present to the King of Pegue & that for Appo Razah not having been yet sent for Reasons which have been assign'd Agreed that they be sent with Mr. Hopkins in the Cuddalore Sloop as a present on the Arrival of a new Chief would probably be expected, & such an one as this may ingratiate him with the King and Minister.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence containing Letters from the King of Tanjore & his Minister Succojee ,Naigue, Nabob Anaverde Cawn &ca.

Those from the King of Tanjore & his Minister are so full of Complaints of the Distress occasion'd to his People & Country by the Morattoes & their fears of a second Visit from them, that there is great Reason to believe they have no Intention of Joining the Nabob at present, untill the harvest is got in.

The Nabobs Letter contains an Account of the Districts now possess'd by the French which they have acquir'd by Force & referrs to a List of the Jagueers which he is willing to grant them amounting to three Lacks of Rupees ℔ Annum empowering the President to treat with Mr. Dupleix on that Subject & to alter & vary it as he may think proper.

[14TH·] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

Tho the Nabob has been desir'd to send a full & ample Power to the President to treat & transact Affairs with the french & the Country Powers in his Name yet he does it in so Vague & loose a manner as may leave Room for Cavil therefore Orderd that the Secretary draw out & lay before the Board the Form of a proper Power to be sign'd by the Nabob.

Letter from Sydoo Phatally Cawn enclosing one to him from Jaffer Ally Cawn relating to the Troubles in the Northern Province & desiring him to apply to us for 500 Europeans to Assist him, Agreed that [the same] Answer be return'd to Sydoo Phatally Cawn that has already been given to Jaffer Ally Cawn As minuted in Consultation 7th· January.

THOS· SAUNDERS.
CHAS· BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR· WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS· BOURCHIER.

AT A CONSULTATION

MONDAY THE 18TH:, *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR· GOVR: PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR: WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

No. 29. TO THE HONBLE THOS: SAUNDERS ESQR:
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA: COUNCIL
OF FORT ST: GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I receiv'd this Morning yours of the 31st: January in Answer to mine of different Dates.

I have been with the Nabob, & inclos'd is the Instrument which I hope will be sufficient; & in two Days he proposes sending the Copys you desire.

Some hurry of Business prevents my Answering your Letter more fully at present, but Shall do it in a Day or two.

I am

Camp the Gentlemen
10th: February Your most Obedt: & most humle: Servt:
1754. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Order'd that the proper Officer prepare a return of all the Forces belonging to this Garrison Arcot Chingalaput & on Detachment to be laid before the Board the better to enable them to form a Judgment what number of Men may with Safety be draughted to reinforce the Major as soon as the Situation of Affairs this way will permit.

As the Major complains that Buckanjee's Bills are not to be depended on & other responsible Shroffs here promising punctuality Agreed that the Major be acquainted We shall remit him Money from hence which We hope will remedy the Grievance.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [18TH.]

Mr. Andrews at Bandaramalanka being in great want of a few Men for his necessary Protection Agreed that a Serjeant with a few Europeans & some Topasses not exceeding twenty in the whole be sent him by his Sloop now preparing to sail & that he be directed to employ them only for his Defence and not to embark in any Expeditions which will only involve him in Difficulties.

The Commissary lays before the Board an Account sent him by the Commissary in Camp of Ramah Naigue's Expences, which appearing Extravagant in many Particulars that may be better judg'd of in Camp than here Agreed that it be referr'd to Major Lawrence to regulate his Allowances.

This being the Harvest Season & grain plenty & Cheap is the properest Time for laying in a Store Agreed that the Officers at Arcot & Chingalaput be directed to press the Killedars to collect a Quantity of Grain sufficient for twelve Months Store in each of those Garrisons & in case they neglect or refuse, to compel them to it.

Tho' the Nabob is of Opinion that Salabat Jing cannot come into this Province this Season & supports it with very cogent Reasons, yet as he is greatly influenc'd by the French, whose Interest it is to bring him this way & who will doubtless use what Means they can to prevail on him, it is much to be apprehended he will visit these Parts & it is even reported he has hoisted his Standard for marching, & as his presence here would greatly change the face of Affairs the President propos'd to the Consideration of the Board what general Plan it would be advisable to pursue in such Case.

And first. As it is well known that Salabat Jing has never had any real Saned from the Mogul for the Government of Decan, & the Titles we have offer'd to produce in the Conference for Mahomed Ally's Government of the Carnateck are sanneds from the Mogul Nazir Jing Gawzede Cawn & his Son Shahebedey Cawn without denying in express Terms Salabat Jing's Right tho' it is certainly very strongly implied in acknowledging Shahebedy Cawn for Prince of the Decan by a late appointment of the Mogul, besides which it is in several other Places insinuated that Salabat Jing's Title is doubtfull, whether these Things consider'd as well as his attachment to the French, it would be adviseable on his approach at the Head of a numerous & powerfull Army for us & the Nabob to endeavour to make our Peace with him by acknowledging his Title as Prince of the Decan & consequently obey his Orders; Or, deeming him an unlawfull Usurper, oppose him with all our Force; Or avoiding both extreams, send a Deputation to him to propose an Accomodation & to join & support him with our whole Force conditionally that Mahomed Ally be continued in the Government of the Carnateck & our Jagueers of Trivendeporum, Poonamalee & St. Thomé confirm'd to us with a Liberty of free Trade.

Secondly in Case Salabat Jing influenc'd & overawed by the French (which would probably be the Case) should refuse to treat with us untill We withdrew our Garrisons from the several Forts We are in Possession of, whether We should comply, or by refusing make him our declar'd Enemy which must be the Consequence.

Thirdly if it be thought most adviseable not to comply, what are the properest Measures to be persued to preserve the Forts and oppose the Enemy.

Fourthly as the first grand Aim of the French should they bring Salabat Jing into this Province, would probably be to regain the Liberty of above six Hundred french Prisoners who are kept in the Forts where We have Garrisons which would give them a great Superiority & enable them to carry their Pernicious Schemes into Execution, & therefore it may be reasonably suppos'd the first Step would be to attempt the Reduction of those Forts by Force Whether upon these Considerations it would be adviseable to trust the Prisoners there or whether without infringing the Treaty of Peace subsisting between the English and French Nations they may be brought into our Settlements, as they are the Nabob's Prisoners at Discretion & not on the Terms of the Prisoners at St. David who capitulated to be sent there & whether this can be done consistently with the safety of those Settlements.

[18ᵗʰ.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

In regard to the first Question, the Board are of opinion that to acknowledge Salabat Jing absolutely considering the French Influence, would be at once to subject ourselves to his & their Power & thereby enable them to Effect the Scheme they have so long been labouring to Accomplish; & to deny his Right (tho this would be most Consistent with the Saneds by which Mahomed Ally claims) would expose the Company's Districts to the ravages of his Army, for these Reasons the Board think these two Extreams should be avoided & that it would be most advisable to Endeavour to negotiate & accomodate Matters with him on the terms propos'd.

Secondly in case Salabat Jing should refuse to treat untill we Evacuate the Forts altho' we offer to Join him with our whole Force, such a Refusal may be construed a Strong Attachment to the French Interest & therefore it would by no means be adviseable to comply because it would be investing them with a Power to do whatever they pleas'd which would in the End be of more pernicious Consequences than the worst Ravages the whole Army could commit in the Companys Bounds during their stay here, which probably could be but short as the Country is incapable of maintaining so large a force any Considerable Time.

Thirdly the Board are of Opinion that the best Method to guard against the Effects of a Refusal to acknowledge Salabat Jing, would be to lay in, now that Grain is plenty and cheap, at least 12 Mº Provision in each of the Forts for a large Garrison, & that when it comes to the Point, such of the Forts as may not be judged tenable against the Enemy's Force be immediately evacuated & the others strongly reinforc'd & that our whole Army approach our Bounds to protect them or Act as Occasion may Require.

Fourthly the Board are of Opinion that without any Infraction of the Treaty of Peace between England & France the Prisoners at Discretion may be confin'd in our Settlements as they are not ours but the Nabob's Prisoners the Parole the Officers have given him acknowledge it & it is not material to us of what Nation his Prisoners may happen to be it seems to be equally warrantable to confine them in our Forts being Allies to the Circar, as to attack him in the Field, & it has not been doubted but that he [*sic*] may do so as Auxiliarys, besides Mʳ· Dupleix's seizing & detainining [*sic*] our Detachment of Swiss will Justify it. The Board are further of Opinion that by keeping good Garrisons in our Settlements they may be confin'd threre [*sic*] without Danger. As to the Expediency of removing them, the Board think the obtaining their Release would certainly be the first Point the French would Aim at & therefore to frustrate it, they advise the Escorting them from the Forts where they are confin'd into our Settlement on the first News of Salabat Jings approach towards the Frontiers.

Agreed that Major Lawrence & Mʳ· Starke be desir'd to give their Opinions on the foregoing Particulars.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence Vizᵗ·

Letter from the Nabob containing a Power to negociate with the French, which in the Opinion of the Board not being properly worded, the Secretary lays before them agreeable to order of last Consultation a Draught of a full Power for that Purpose from the Nabob to the Governour & Council which is read & approv'd & order'd to be Translated into the persian Language to be sent him.

Four Letters from Abdul Bob Cawn advising that Ballazerow's Vackeel had sent a party of Men towards Tripoty & gives out that his Master has a Saned for it from the Mogull. that with the Assistance of the Party sent him he should collect Money & pay a part to the Company & part to the Nabob, at present he sends us an Order upon Wally Mahomed Cawn Amuldar of Tripossore Circar for a Lack of Rupees. That he is desirous of Accomodating Affairs with Mootas Ally Cawn on the same terms he enjoy'd in his Father's Time but he don't agree to it. That the Nabob has wrote to him for a Reinforcemᵗ· but as the Pay of his Army is Eight months in Arrear they refuse to go, that he expects Mauphez Cawn to join him

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [18TH.]

shortly with two Thousand Horse with which he will march against the Pollygars and supply the Nabob with what Money he may collect & pay his Troops whom he will then send to the Nobob.

Orderd that the Commissary demand the Lack of Rupees, by Virtue of Abdul Bob Cawn's Order, of the Amuldar of Tripassore Circar & Report his Proceeding to the Board.

Letter from Mootas Ally Cawn enclosing a form of an Agreement or Letter of Indulgence which he desires may be sign'd by the Governour & Council with their Seals affix'd, which with some Alterations is agreed to be sent.

Ensign Paccard writes from Trivatore that he had join'd Abdul Bob Cawn & that they were going in quest of a Party of Morattoes who have been plundering towards Chingalaput.

The President lays before the Board Drafts of Letters to the Nabob, King of Tanjore &c^a. which are approved.

THO^S. SAUNDERS.
CHA^S. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^R: WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CH^S. BOURCHIER.

Sent General Letter to Major Lawrence as follows. 19.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^R.

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 4th. Instant with one to the President which he communicated to us.

By a Majority of the Council M^r. Charles Hopkins is appointed to Succeed David Hunter Esqr. at the Negrais.

By 5 Deserters from the Enemy's Camp to Arcot who are since sent here, We are inform'd that on a reinforcement of 50 Men being sent from Pondicherry to Syringham a Detachment was at Night sent out to Join them that their Number might seem the greater that the whole Force of the French Topasses & Coffreys included is about 600 amongst which are many Seamen & Boys that their Treatment is Bad & Provisions scarce which occasions frequent Desertion that they do not seem to have any Design to act offensively but wait an attack from the Nabob's Army.

It is rumour'd Salabad Jing intends coming to this Province though not certain it seems reasonable to conclude that the French will try all means to persuade him to it. the Nabob thinks he will not, he supports his Opinion, by urging the lowness of his Cash that he will not be able to satisfie his Troops & that should he move further than Golconda an Insurrection at Aurungabad would be the Consequence; These Reasons are of Force, but considering the Interest the French have with him & the [Benefit] that would arise to them from it We cannot doubt [but they] will strongly inforce it.

The Morattoes have lately a[ppear'd plun]dering and destroying in the Neighbourhood [of Chittaput] and Chingalaput We have join'd a Party to Abdul Bob Cawn this may in some Degree keep them at a Distance but not totally prevent their Incursions as the French have Allumparra [*sic*] & Gingee Places conveniently situated for their Retreat & as Magazines for Stores.

The Nabob's Elder Brother Mahauphez Cawn is arriv'd at Velore with 1000 Horse.

The Conference at Sadrass is broke up M^r. Dupleix being deaf to all reasonable Proposals & insisting on his unlawfull right to the whole Country M^r. Starke will enclose you Copy of the last Letter to the French Deputy's which is a recapitulation of the whole.

The Measures we think most prudent are.

[19TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

That as this is the Season of Harvest, Grain is cheapest & plentiest, a Store for a year at least should be laid into Trichenopoly by which Means shou'd it be necessary the Army may move & if Salabat Jing should come into the Province & influenc'd by french Councils, have any Design on it, it may be the easier frustrated as it is a Doubt whether his Army could be supported a Year in the Province.

We concurr with you in your Opinion of attacking the Enemy before they can be joind by their Aurungabad Force, & receive Recruits from Europe, The President has wrote to Abdul Bob Cawn to Join some Horse to the 1000 that came with Mahauphez Cawn & send them to the Nabob, We shall supply you with all we can possibly Spare returns are now preparing of the Several Garrisons & in a few Days We shall be able to advise you what number of Men can be sent you the greatest Difficulty seems to lie in the King of Tanjore We much doubt whether he will join the Nabob till his Grain is collected he will be continually forming Excuses for Delay the readiest way to remove them is by yours & the Nabobs having a Conference with him.

Inclos'd is copy of a Letter from one of the French Officers who came on Parole from Trichenopoly complaining of ill Treatment.

We have applied to Mr. Palk to go to Tanjore he is willing to undertake it for the publick Service but represents to us that he should be glad if it could be deferr'd till the Durrington's Dispatch having some Affairs to settle which he cannot do sooner, this in all probability will not exceed a Fortnight.

Captn. Pascall is reported to be well in Health when he left Deve Cotah.

As Buckanjee's Bills are not to be depended on We shall remit you from hence by the means of other Shroffs who promise punctually & We hope will observe it.

The Letter from the Mogull's Vackeel is not yet come to hand, if you could inform us of his Name we might get some information concerning it.

Though we have an Agreement sign'd by the Nabob to pay the Batta & charges of our Troops yet we think it prudent to act in the Securest manner the President therefore has wrote to the Nabob to send him a Note sign'd & Seal'd by him & attested by the Caudee that the Circar of Arcot is answerable to us for what Expences we have or may be at please to press him to send it soon & let it be as full as possible.

Enclosed are Copies of Letters to the King of Tanjore.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
19th. Febry. 1754.

WEDNESDAY THE 20TH:

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT.
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President acquaints the Board that the Occasion of his calling them together is to communicate to them a General Letter from Mr. Hopkins at Deve-

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [20th.]

Cotah (& the same is accordingly read) representing that he shall retain a gratefull Sense of the Favour done him in the appointment of him to the management of the Company's Affairs at the Negrais, but as he has for a Considerable time past & still Labours under a very bad state of Health which renders him unequal to so weighty an Undertaking as Succeeding Mr. Hunter in the Government of that Settlement he therefore Requests to be excus'd & to be continued in his present Employ.

As the Negrais is represented to be a very unhealthy Place the Board are of Opinion that it will be of no Service to send a Gentleman there who already labours under a bad State of Health & several concurrent Testimony's being produc'd that Mr. Hopkins is really in the Condition he represents Agreed that he be excus'd & continued in the Chiefship of Deve Cotah.

The Board then proceeded to the choice of another Gentleman & William Perceval being propos'd is appointed to succeed Mr. Hunter in the Management of the Hoñble Compys. Affairs at the Negrais, Orderd that the Secretary signifie the same to him.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present FRIDAY THE 22D

THOS SAUNDERS ESQR: GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR: WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President acquaints the Board that he had Again call'd them together in Relation to the appointment of a Person to proceed to the Negrais in the Room of Mr. Hunter as no time was to be lost & Mr. Perceval whom the Board had pitch'd upon for that purpose last Wednesday desir'd to be excus'd for the Reasons contain'd in a Letter now read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I this Day receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Secretary Du Pré to acquaint me that you had yesterday appointed me to succeed David Hunter Esqr. in the management of the Honble Companys Affairs at the Negrais.

The great Regard I have for the Hoñble Companys Interest and the Duty I owe to them and to your Orders, are sufficient Motives to induce me to Comply therewith did not my Age and Infirmities prevent me, which I believe your Honour &cs. are in some Measure sensible of, in these Circumstances I hope you will excuse me from undertaking such an Expedition being well convinc'd I cannot render our Hoñble Masters those Services, which the Nature of it require.

I am
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George.
21st: Febry. 1754.

[22D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

The same Reasons being alledg'd by Mr. Perceval as by Mr. Hopkins against undertaking an Expedition which it must be allow'd requires some Activity, the Board admit of his Excuse and Mr. John Smith being propos'd is appointed in his Stead to proceed to the Negrais and take Charge of the Settlement there, which the Secretary is directed to acquaint him with.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

No. 31. I acknowledg'd the Receipt of yours of the 31st. in mine of the 10th. & inclos'd sent the Instrument you desir'd from the Nabob, for full Powers to treat & conclude of a Peace.

Inclos'd with this goes Copies of all his Saneds, attested as you desire by the Caudee. He has also receiv'd Letters from Ballazerow, assuring him of his Assistance: & the Hircar reports that the Forces were on their march when he set out How much we may depend on this is far from Certain therefore nothing at the present should be omitted that can be done In expectation of what may happen.

In Answer to the Letter from Bengal (the Counterpart of which I receiv'd also from those Gentlemen) I send you inclos'd my Answer to them I think the Remonstrance of their Officers very Just; I only wait for your Orders to comply with their Request, which Order if you please should be given at all our Places where we have any Troops.

They approve of none of the Appointments made on this Coast for their Gentlemen, & seem to think they are solely made by me. I beg you will inform them right in that particular; by letting them know the Method I follow: which is only appointing for the Time being, when Service requires, & waiting for your Orders to confirm, or reject as you please. I also acquainted the Gentlemen of that Presidency of the Appointments made by me & ratified by you, for their Officers: as I told you in a Letter of mine last Novr. *As to the Bengal Promotions, I write to the Governour of that Settlement recommending; & then waiting for his Approbation.*

The Affair of the Negrais on which you demand my Sentiments I cannot so easily give it. I have not any of my Papers by me to refresh my Memory, Nor can I recollect the Reasons & Opinions I gave you before on the making of that new Settlement One Thing I remember very well. I told you I thought it was undertaken at [*sic*] at a Time, when the Circumstances of Affairs were not so favourable as one could wish: For the prosecution of a Scheme that requir'd being well & firmly establish'd at first; In order to maintain itself afterwards we could not then well spare Troops; Nor do I think can we now. The Gentlemen think the Place now pitch'd on for the Settlement will not Answer. The Difficulties seem to be very great. They are Doubtfull of the Sincerity of the Peguers, & for that Reason decline their Invitation to Persaim; where certainly it would be wrong to send them, without a Force strong enough to protect them from any Insult. could they maintain themselves where they are till the Arrival of the Europe Ships, which perhaps may bring us a much wanted Peace. Then you may be able to pursue the Project with Vigour, & Advantage, either by remaining where you are, Or removing to Persaim.

I do not give this Gentlemen as my Opinion, only my Thoughts. You will act for the best I am persuaded, & I wish you Success.

There are no Troops yet from Tanjore, nor any Thing from that Court that seems to Promise much in our Favour If my last Proposal cannot be agreed with, I think with you my march down there Necessary. But please to consider that the Minute we leave the Fort, Not one of the Nabob's People will stay in it. For he has no Money to leave with them for their Support, & only keeps them now by Promises & borrowing little Sums from every Body that will trust him. When they go If I leave a Force Sufficient of our own People to guard that large Place, I should leave

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——— [22D.]

myself without any Troops I have spoke to him on the Subject. He declares his Necessity; & that all he can expect is from Arcot, which has been often promis'd, but never Sent. You should press his Brother to send him some Money. It shall be taken care of by us, & only laid out to pay his Seapoys, who will gladly stay when they find Provision made for them, & we Security for it.

The Affair of Provisions grows every Day more Troublesome, being oblig'd to live from Hand to Mouth & continual Parties sending out to Escort it which fatigues & harasses our Men greatly. I beg you may come to a speedy Resolution, for Affairs cannot remain long as they are. We have reports that the King of Tanjore is in Treaty with the Mysoreans & indeed his way of Proceeding does not seem unlike it. Tondiman is continually wanting a Party in his Country, which I cannot spare him for the Time he wants them; & Supplys us but very Scantily.

I have had some Conversations with Ramah Naigue I must own I cannot find he points out himself any Use he can be of to us; nor can I myself look on him as of any Service, but a great Expence, If you will please to shew me how I can employ him, I shall immediately do it.

My Officers begin to fall sick Captain D'Illens, & three more oblig'd to go in the Fort, & Mr. Nelson with my leave goes down to St. Davids for his Health.

Our Congress will prove but a tedious Affair I believe, & produce Nothing. I am not Certain if Mr. K'Jean's ought not to have been objected to as one of the Deputy's He is still Prisoner to the Nabob, & as such without his Leave; I do not think he can Act in such an Affair, or what is equal to it his acting not reckon'd Valid. Probably a Piece of French Politicks to make the Flaw themselves, & if not taken Notice of by us to serve them as Occasion may offer.

The King of Tanjore has just given us a Proof of his well meaning. One of our out Posts which is the high road from him to us, & for all our Supplys, which he had hitherto kept with his Forces, this Day he has recall'd, & the Place abandoned by them, without any Reason assign'd for such Behaviour. The Place is call'd Coutapara.

I am,
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient & most humble Servt.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp
13th. Febry. 1754.

A Return being now laid before the Board of the Forces in this Garrison & dependency's, Arcot & Chingleput &c Agreed that one Hundred & twenty Men be Drafted to reinforce the Army under the Command of Major Lawrence & that the Recovery Snow now in the Road be hired to transport them to Deve Cotah where they are to wait for the Major's Orders that he be advised thereof and acquainted that if Ramah Naigue can be of Service in Camp as an Interpreter he may be kept there otherwise sent to St. David, & in regard to the Bengal Recruits that they are incorporated in that Detachment.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

General Letter to Major Lawrence sign'd & sent dated this Day, as follows.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. CAMMANDER
IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA. 24.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 13th. with Copy of one without Date the Original is not come to hand our last was the 19th. Instant.

[24th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

'Tis a Year since the Recruits design'd for Bengall have been incorporated in that Detachment what Recruits we receive are as soon as Disciplin'd sent to Camp the only Method to regulate that Affair is that those who come out in future be dispos'd of in the same Manner as to conforming exactly to the List sent up 'tis impossible the Commandant of the Garrison always had Orders to acquaint you with every thing thereto relating.

The Disapproval of the Appointments of the Bengal Officers here we conceive does not proceed from any want of Respect to us or You but that there are other Officers at Bengal who by Rank are Entitled to such Vacancy's, We shall recommend to the Gentlemen at Bengal not to supercede any Officers appointed here & acquaint them with the Method of Appointing them Lieutenant Godwin was by Mr. Robbins's Request granted a Commission on that Establishment we are inform'd he has not his Rank if so 'twould be better to continue him on ours.

The Letters We sent you Contain the whole Information we have receiv'd of the Negrais We shall conduct the Expedition in the best manner we can though We are convinc'd it will never answer the Expectation conceiv'd of it.

The Saneds are receiv'd our Last Advices say Ballazerow continued at Ponnah & that Salabat Jing had hoisted his Standard for Marching having taken his two Brothers out of Doulatabad Fort. that Sidoo Lascar Cawn had resign'd & Shawnarvums Cawn acted as Duan Monsr. Bussy is pressing for Salabad Jings March to the Carnateck the Omrah's & Ballazerow oppose it.

The King of Tanjore continues his too Cautious Manner of acting Mr. Palk will shortly set out for his Court & We hope will be able to convince him of the necessity of exerting himself.

We are continually pressing Abdul Bob Cawn to send his Troops & remit some Money to the Nabob, the President has wrote to him to join 500 Horse to the 1000 of Mauphis Cawn's & detach them immediately & We are Draughting Men from Arcot Chingalaput & our own Garrison who We hope will Embark in a few Days on the Recovery Brigatine for Deve Cotah under the Command of Captn. Lin when you'l please to send Orders for him.

Mr. Starke informs us he has remitted 10,000 Pags. we have sent you Bills for 15000 & Shall send others for 15000 more.

If Ramah Naigue can be of Service to You as an Interpreter in Camp, pleace to keep him, if not, please to return him to St. David.

The King of Mysore is sensible how serviceable the King of Tanjore's junction is to the Nabob in disappointing his views on Trichenopoly & will Endeavour to gain him but as the Former knows nothing will satisfie the Latter but the giving up that Place, We can hardly think he will accede to it if he does We cannot contest it the French promise they will deliver it to the Mysoreans & get Salabat Jing's Confirmation, & We believe if the Nabob's Affairs don't mend we must be glad of these Terms at last.

The Papers transmitted will inform you of the Issue of the Congress; as they were only empower'd to Confer & not to ratifie Monsr. K'jeans being a Deputy could not be of any Prejudice.

The March of Salabat Jing into this Province, & the Measures to be taken came under our Consideration when the following Points were Debated on which We should be glad of your Opinion.

First, Whether on his Approach at the Head of a numerous & powerfull Army, it would be adviseable for us & the Nabob to Endeavour to make our Peace with him by acknowledging his Title as Prince of the Decan & consequently obey his Orders; Or deeming him an unlawfull Usurper, oppose him with all our Force; Or avoiding both Extreams send a Deputation to him to propose an Accomodation & to join & support him with our whole Force conditionally that Mahomed Ally be continued in the Government of the Carnateck & our Jagueers of Trevendeporum Poonemalee & St. Thome confirm'd to us with a Liberty of free Trade.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [24TH.]

Secondly, In case Salabat Jing influenc'd & overaw'd by the French should refuse to treat with us untill we withdraw our Garrisons from the several Forts we are in Possession of, whether we should comply, or by refusing make him our declar'd Enemy which must be the Consequence.

Thirdly, If it be thought most adviseable not to comply, what are the properest Measures to be pursued to preserve the Forts & oppose the Enemy.

Fourthly, As the first grand Aim of the French, should they bring Salabad Jing into this Province, would probably be to regain the Liberty of above 600 French Prisoners who are kept in the Forts where We have Garrison's which would give them a vast Superiority & enable them to carry on their pernicious Schemes into Execution & therefore it may be reasonably suppos'd the first Step would be to attempt the Reduction of those Forts by Force. Whether upon these Considerations it would be adviseable to trust the Prisoners there, or whether without infringing the Treaty of Peace subsisting between the English and French Nations they may be brought into our Settlements, as they are the Nabob's Prisoners at Discretion & not on the Terms of the Prisoners at St. David who capitulated to be sent there, & whether this can be done consistently with the Safety of those Settlements.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY. POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
24th. Febry 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

MONDAY THE 25TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER

No. 32.

Two General Letters from Major Lawrence read as follow.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I wrote to you Yesterday, & am sorry for the Occasion that obliges me to write again to Day. the Danger of sending out Parties which I too well foresaw & so often told you of appear'd but too plainly to day.

I had sent a party to Trichinopoly, to escort Provisions, Money, & what Stores were there. as We had been obliged often to do this, I thought proper for fear the Enemy might be tempted to endeavour opposing them sometime or other, to make this Party stronger than any I had sent.

The Enemy sure enough lay in wait for them having march'd in the Night, attack'd them by break of Day, with a Superiour Force, a great Number of Horse, Surrounded & have taken them almost all Prisoners, very few escaping & those Wounded. What gives me the greatest Concern in the affair is, that I believe their Ill success was owing to Misconduct. Captn. Grenville commanded the party.

[25TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

Inclos'd is the Return of what We have lost besides 4 Pieces of Cannon, Ammunition &ca Stores, Provisions of all kinds. We have a Report the Money is safe. I hope it may prove true.

On hearing the Firing I immediately march'd from Camp with a strong Body, but could not come time enough to prevent the Accident.

I shall write you to morrow my Opinion of Affairs. my Men are in good Spirits & only wish for an opportunity to repair this slip of their Countrymen.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble Servant
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp the
14th: February 1754.

No. 33. TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQ. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I wrote you on the 15th. with an Account of our Loss. We have since heard from Seringham. They have 138 Prisoners with them out of which, 100 are in the Hospitall. so but 38 out of the whole Number escap'd without Death or Wounds. out of the 8 Officers 4 are killed Captn. Grant, Revel, Kemp & Dapsher 3 Wounded Captn. Grenville who is in a dangerous way. the Docter & Ensign Vouge only escaping the general Massacre. you see Gentlemen what the bravest Men can do against Numbers to be sure if Captn. Grenville had not unfortunately divided his Men the Accident might not have happend; but how often have I told you that we run those Risques; How often told you how we were distress'd for Provisions, & the Danger We run in bringing them in, what could be the use of so many Remonstrances, & repeated ones; sure you could not have imagin'd it was for the Pleasure of writing them or giving you uneasiness; was it not to point out to you our Situation, which you must see we could not hold long without more Forces to assist us, or to send me Orders to move from this I was oblig'd at last to tell you what I thought should be done, which you should have thought of, & done long ago. you flatter yourselves perhaps to protract the War till the Arrival of the Europe Ships. In hopes they may settle a Peace. In the Mean time it would I think be worth your Consideration, the safety of so many brave Men, that may perish for want of being supported & then suppose these Europe Ships do not bring a Peace, or Troops equal to those the Enemy may have over. think of your Condition: & what Terms, if you sue for a Peace you are likely to get: It would be
to March /94 towards/ St: David a mistake Tanjore / get Provisions.
proper 69, 70, 68, 98, 99, to/73, 88, 114, 51, 40 not far, that we may 153 152, 154,
/We march/ /Trichenopoly/ /Forces/
196, 195 when 69, 68, 70, 201, from 43, 40, 41 & have 106, 107, 108, 109 sufficient
/March/ /400/
there. There will not 66, 67, 70, 68 with me a b c s f z l m n z left including all kinds.
/Trichenopoly/ /—300—/ /in the Hospital/ /150/ /Seapoys/
In 40, 41, 43, 109, 100 will be f g r o c z z & 180, 181, 188, about p t l m z, 118, 119,
/800/ /this must be a mistake, 10,000/ /want of
131, 132 there x z z c m n d & with me p z fl m g m z d c z m z that is the whole great 71.
Money/
72, 73, 74. pray dont neglect that—send me you Orders Gentlemen I insist on & beg it of you. You can Judge; I have told you my Opinion, my Situation you know our Friends, then Judge what is proper to be done. The Money is all gone 10,000 R: 7000 P: The French have propos'd an Exchange of Prisoners the Nabob has agreed to it. I beg there may be no Delays in answering of this. I wait with impatience for an Answer to mine of the 2d: & 4th: Instt. if that comes agreeable to what I've ask'd we still may do very well. If not (unless I can have very good Reasons to the Contrary) I wash my Hands of the Event I will do every thing in my Power but must think it hard to be

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [25TH.]

drove to such Necessities. Captn. Pascall not longer able to bear the Field & has my leave to return Captn. D'Illens continues very Ill I am afraid some Letters have miscarried my last Except the Account of the Skirmish was on the No. 31 Instant, & your last to me on the 31st. January. 13th.

I am
Gentlemen
Your Obedient humble Servant

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

General Letter from Captn Kilpatrick at Trichinopoly advising that the Difficulty of getting Provisions is now so great, & likely to encrease since the late Defeat that the Consequences are to be dreaded should they be oblig'd to encroach on the Magazine & advises that the only Effectual Way to apply a Remedy is to unite our whole Force & attempt something against the Enemy.

The Board having Consider'd of what Measures are proper to be taken on this unfortunate Occasion It is Agreed in the first place that the Army be reinforced with every Man that can possibly be spar'd & thereupon the Return of all the Forces in this Garrison & Dependencies Arcot, Chingalaput &cª. being again Consider'd Agreed that besides what Orderd to be drawn from the Several Garrisons in last Consultation thirty more be draughted from Arcot Conjeveram & Chingalaput that 30 Coffreys from this Garrison be also added. that Captn. Pigou at Arcot be order'd to deliver over the Command of that Fort to Lieutenant Achilles Preston & conduct the Party here as Expeditiously as possible in order to proceed to Camp, that Lieutenant Patterson be also order'd to take the Field, that as soon as the whole Detachment can be collected together they be embarked on the Recovery Snow for Deve Cotah with Orders to touch at Fort St. David & that Mr. Starke be desir'd to Exchange the Coffreys for Europeans if it can possibly be done with Safety to the Garrison, as the Coffreys are of very little use in Camp. That in regard to the present Operations of the Army whereon the Major writes pressingly for Orders to be advis'd of the intented reinforcement, that as the King of Tanjore's behaviour gives us Reason to be alarm'd We think the whole Army should move towards him if it can be done with Safety to Trichenopoly, which may at once facilitate the getting of Provisions & the Junction of the Reinforcement from Deve Cotah that as we suppose the Enemy are elated at the late Success We do not think this a proper Time to treat, That the King of Tanjore should be told plainly if he will not immediately Join his Forces to the Nabobs & act with Vigour he shall be under an absolute Necessity of delivering up Trichenopoly to the Dallaway & indeed if he should still decline Joining it appears to be the most Eligible Step as his Forces are absolutely necessary to oppose the Enemy, & it is agreed that Mr. Palk be desir'd to proceed with the above Detachment to Tanjore with Instructions to assure the King of our Resolution with regard to the King of Mysore & Trichenopoly.

Agreed that a General Letter be wrote by Pattamar to Bombay to request they will if possible spare a reinforcement of Men.

The President lays before the Board Extract of a Letter from Ensign Flaction at Chellimbrum, where he is now a Prisoner, giving an Account that he was attack'd before Mannor Coil, which Place he was besieging, by a Party of the Enemy from Chellimbrum that the Engagement lasted some time & Victory inclin'd to him when a party of Seapoys whom he had dispos'd in his Rear to cover it ran away & left him expos'd upon which the beseiged immediately made a Sally, he defended himself however for some time but being overpowered by Numbers was oblig'd to surrender with one Serjeant one Corporal & nine European Centinels who were all conducted to Chellimbrum.

Letter read from Nabob Annaverde Cawn enclosing attested Copies under the Caudy's Seal of the Several Sanneds from the Mogul, Nazir Jing, Gauzedey Cawn,

[25TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*——

Salabad Jing, Shahe bedey Cawn &a. Hassebul Hucam from Janeed Cawn, by Virtue of which he claims the Government of the Carnateck. Orderd that the same be translated & carefully examind & if they appear consistent & without Defect Agreed that a Letter be then wrote to Mr. Dupleix that We are ready to produce attested Copies of the Nabob's Saned's to whomsoever he shall appoint to inspect them.

A Letter from Mr. John Smith who was last Consultation appointed to the Chiefship of the Negrais is now read as follows.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &c Council
of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

You were pleas'd, on Friday last the 22d. Instant to order your Secretary to acquaint me that I was appointed to go Chief to the Negrais. After acknowledging the great Honour you design'd me I begg'd Leave for a little Time to consider of it, as the Confusion I was then in prevented me from thinking maturely upon it. Time for Considering this Affair being thought very reasonable, was readily granted me, the Use I have made of it has been to view it, in all the different Lights I possibly could; the Result of which is that is my humble & Real Opinion, that I am not qualified for so important an Undertaking, not only as I am not experienc'd in Affairs of this Nature from having never been employ'd in any thing like it, but as I am so far advanc'd in Years; that Spirit & Resolution, which will be necessary to execute many Things which may probably happen in a new Settlemt. cannot be expected from Me & the Consequences that may follow this one Circumstance Vizt. the want of proper Spirits, may be such as Cannot be easily remedied. Add to this that I have not been without my Share of Misfortunes in Life the Struggling with which has so much depressed & indeed in a great Measure worn out my Health & Spirits, that it has render'd me very badly able to bear the great Inconveniences as to my Health, caused by the Change from a Cold Northern Climate to this that is so extreemly different from it; For these several Reasons I with the strictest Sincerity Once more beg leave to assure you that I think Myself very incapable of forwarding the Design I am appointed to be sent upon. After this it may be thought unnecessary to mention that I have been frequently Ill since my Arrival here, & was very lately again so attack'd (of which if it be thought proper, I could produce sufficient Testimony) that I have not yet properly recovered my Health for I am indeed at present far from being well. But if after this Representation of my Case, You are still pleas'd to Order me to the Negrais, I will endeavour to do my Duty there, in the best manner in my Power, tho' I could much rather wish to have a more able Person sent on an Affair that I am so little fit for Executing either to your Satisfaction or my own.

I am with all due Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Oblig'd & Obedient humn Servant
John Smith.

Fort St. George.
25th : Febry 1754.

As Mr. Smith so earnestly presses to be excus'd & thinks that he has not Health or Spirits sufficient for such an Undertaking the Board do not insist on his proceeding And it is agreed that Mr. Henry Brooke, who agreeable to his Orders took Charge of the Expedition on Mr. Hunter's Death, be continued for the present in the management & Direction of the Settlement & Affairs at the Negrais & in Case of his

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1754.*—— [24th.]

Death, that Mr. Thomas Taylor (who in Consultation the 18th. of February was Appointed Resident at Syrian in the Room of Mr. Westgarth) succeed him untill further Orders.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR: WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS: BOURCHIER.

25

General Letter to Major Lawrence sent as follows.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR.
COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE
COMPYS FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 13th. and one without Date No. 33 giving an Account of the ill Success of a Party detachd for escorting Provisions which we are heartily sorry for.

We are concern'd that your Situation should be such that absolute necessity oblig'd you to send out Detach[ments] but We dont see how it could be remedied & if the Enemy [by] marching in the Night surpris'd & overpower'd one of th[ese] parties it must be deem'd the fortune of War for neither [you] nor We can insure Success to the best Concerted Plans, What is in our Power We do, You will have been advised of the Reinforcement we were draughting agreeable to what you intimated, this done tis with Difficulty the Garrison Duty can be perform'd, We have made you Remittances & shall continue to do this & every other Thing that may promote the good of the Service, not only our Inclinations but our utmost Endeavours have been for this Year past to conclude a Peace which from the Conference at Sadrass and with the Mysore Vackeel is very evident, slight are our Hopes of any Benefit that can come from the Negociations with the French Directors at home for how can they make any conclusions on what is fluctuating & they have no knowledge of but in General Terms. The Execution of which must be trusted to Commissarys & these in all probability will be influenced by [Mr.] Dupleix ; and accept or Reject as suits their Interest nor on a Reinforcement by our expected Ships have We more Dependance by Experience convinc'd that their Recruits are in Number greatly superiour to ours & consequently We shall be in a worse rather than a better Situation and when to this We add that there is a probability of Salabad Jing's coming to the Province we think it necessary to come to a determinate Resolution. Mr. Dupleixs Offers We are all acquainted with We know also that the Mysore Dalloway's Demand is fix'd The King of Tanjores Interest there is no doubt of. To give up Tritchenopoly he cannot hear of ; should not he then assist in its defence the Nabob's Difficulties are obvious & you will be best able to Judge of the weight of the Reinforcement we are sending which will be to the utmost of our Power, thus the Terms of Peace, the Strength to continue the War are known it remains to fix on one or the other, please to give us your Opinion.

No Endeavours shall be wanting to prevail on Abdul Bob Cawn to send the Horse one of the great Difficulty's the Nabob labours under is the Incapacity & ill conduct of his Relations.

In the Exchange of Prisoners if Mr. Astruck could be avoided it would be of Service as he is the most experienced Officer they have.

We feel very sensibly your Situation & wish for Nothing more ardently than to be able to apply a Remedy & put it in your Power to strike a Stroke for the Publick Good the utmost We can do shall be put in Execution expeditiously the Reinforcemt.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

[25TH. FEB.] we are in great hopes will be ready to embark in four or five Days & will wait your Orders at Deve Cotah. You give us your Opinion 69. 70. 68. 98. 99 (to march) to 73. 88. 114. 51. 40 (St: David) Tanjore We imagine 114 (St: David) a Mistake & that you mean 51 (Tanjore) upon the whole you desire & in isist[*sic*] on our Orders, We are persuaded you do not Mean any other Orders than such as must still be Subject to whatever Variation you may think necessary from the Intervention of particular Circumstances as Affairs appear to be [*sic*] Us at present your Advice 104. 83. 22. 68. 51. 67 (to march to Tanjore) has our Sanction if it can be done & 94. 109. 12. 43. 186. 132 (Trichenopoly in no Danger) which may at once facilitate 152. 145 (Provision) (& 81. 91. 51.) The Junction of the Tanjoreans (& 106. 103. 173.) the Party from Deve Cotah. (46. 47. 44) Mysore King (Morarow & Dupleix) is in no humour at present to admit 210. 189. 206 (Treaty) in the same Form as before We therefore do not think it prudent to make the attempt instantly tho' 116. 123. 21. 51 (King of Tanjore) should be whisper'd that unless 75. 99. 81. 214 (he will Join) we are resolv'd 38. 22. 120. 43. 80. (Trichenopoly) & 60. 74, 46 91 (King of Mysore) shall shake Hands we may make a Merit of this with the Latter list it should not be in our Power to prevent it. We wrote you yesterday & advis'd that We had remitted you 15,000 Pagoda's, and should send 15,000 more this shall be done shortly & further Sum's shall follow as fast as Possible to enable you to 152. 134. 43. 145. (Provision Trichenopoly) for p. a. c. q. 199. 209. 185 (12 Months) this is the grand Point & if it were once effected We might be at Liberty to give greater Scope to our Actions. Mr. Palk will soon proceed, what We have above hinted will be a principal part of his Commission.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
THOS. SAUNDERS &CA. COUNCIL.

Fort St. George.
25th. Febry 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

MONDAY THE 4TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

No. 34.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA: COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Annex'd to this I send you a Copy of the Parole two of our Gentlemen, Prisoners have given, on Conditi[ns] of leave to return to our Settlements Mr. Dupleix has desir'd two more might be kept one Captn. & one Lieutenant untill We gave two Officers of theirs at Chingalaput the s[ame] leave. Mr. Pasco & another; for Captn. Grenville & Lieutenant Imoff. If you think proper I should apply to the Nabob for it pray send me Word.

I have appointed Messrs. Clark & Airy to do duty as Ensigns, untill your Pleasure is known.

I have yet no Answers to my Letters of the 2d. & 4th: Instant I cannot imagine the Reason I [am] afraid the Packet may have fallen in the Enemys hand or I am sure I should have had an Answer long ago, I have wrote since on the 13th. 14th. & 18th. Instants.

—*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*— [4TH.]

Affairs are just as I told you the Ene[my] expect a Reinforcement of Europeans. you may know [if] it be true or not.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obed^{t} : & most h̃ble Servt :

Camp the
[25$^{th.}$ Fe]bry 1754.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Copy of the Parole sign'd by Lieut$^{t.}$ Gurtler & Ensign Vouga.

Nous Sousignés Officiers Anglois Prisoniers du Nabob Salabajunge donnons notre Parole d' Honneur, qu'ences que le dit Nabab veuille nous permettre de nous rendre au Fort S$^{t.}$ Davids ; ou a Madrass jusque au Tems de notre echange, de remplir les Conditions Suivantes.

1 : ^{mo} ... De nous rendre Incessament aupres de luy, ou de ses Lieutenants Commandans en sa place ; en ces qu'il juge apropos de revoquer la dite Permission. Sans que le dit Nabab ou ses Lieutenents ; soit tenu de nous faire expliquer les Raisons de ce changement.

2 : ^{do} ... De ne faire aucun Service Militaire de quelque Espece qu'il puisse etre, pendant que durera la presente Guerre, ou Jusqueà le change.

3^{d} : ... De ne point nous Eloigner de S$^{t.}$ David ou de Madrass, sousquelque pretexte que ce puisse etre, A moins que pour repasser en Europe. ceux de nous qui y repasseront, et qui reviendrons dans ce Pays icy continuerons á se soumettre aux Conditions Sy dessus.

General Letter from Mess$^{rs.}$ Starke & Cooke read as follow's.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ$^{R.}$
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C$^{A.}$ COUNCIL
OF FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE.

Hon̄ble Sir & Sirs,

The President in a Letter to M$^{r.}$ Starke having desir'd our Opinion on the late Advices receiv'd from the Negrais, & what Measures We think adviseable to be pursued. In Obedience thereto We take leave to say from the Accounts before Us there appears too many difficulties & Inconveniences attending the Establishing of a Settlement on that Island to reap from it any real Advantages for many [years], however as We are quite ignorant of our Hon̄ble [Masters] Views in fixing on this Spot, We think Nothing [should be] erased of that Building till their farther Pleasure is [known] In the Interim as the Island of Persaim is recom[mended] by M$^{r.}$ Hunter as a proper Situation for our Chief [Settle]ment in that Country, & being generally allow'd [to be a] healthy & Profitable Soil, We think the Erecting a [Fortifica]tion at that Place the first Material, & as there is R[eason] to hope from the Help that may be procur'd am[ong the] Inhabitants that a Work there may be easily com[pleat'd,] We may thereby be speedily possess'd of a sure Foo[ting, &] being once fix'd here [*sic*], great Assistance may be gi[ven from] thence to any farther Work at the Negrais, should [our Honble] Masters see Occasion to direct it ; besides the Adv[antage] that We have no doubt must accrue from it in a [Mercan]tile Way which We hope will shortly answer the [Expences]

We are with Respect
Hon̄ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient Hum. [Servants]

Fort S$^{t.}$ George
27$^{th.}$ Febry 1754.

RICH$^{D.}$ STARKE.
THO$^{S.}$ COOKE.

[4TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

Orderd that Ensign's Commission's be m[ade] out for the Two Voluntiers Clark & Airy recommend by [Major] Lawrence, that he be advis'd thereof & Acquainted th[at] We have no Objection to the releasing of the two french Offi[cers] at Chingalaput if the Nabobs is so enclin'd.

As Experience has shown us that [Mr.] Dupleix will not Scruple to commit the most ouve[rt] Acts of War in defiance of the Treaty of Peace between [the] French & English Nation & as there is a Ship or two [of] Force in Pondicherry Road it is possible some Attem[pt] might be made to Seize the Detachment intended to be sent to Deve Cotah if there were a probability of Success which at this Time would be of the most dangerous Consequences, as, even with this reinforcement we shall not be able to do more than act on the Defensive, to prevent such an Accident it is therefore Agreed that the Detachment be embark'd on the Recovery Snow & Cuddalore Sloop that the Durrington Convoy them safe into Fort St. David Road & then make the best of her way on her intended Voyage to England.

Ordered that fifteen Day's Provision be put on board the Recovery & Cuddalore for the Men to be embark'd on each & that whatever is not expended in the Passage be deliver'd at Fort St. David or Deve Cotah.

An Account of the Expences of Messrs. Palk & Vansittart Commissioners for Treating with the French at Sadrass being laid before the Board amounting to four Hundred & Sixty Rupees (Rs. 460), & two Hundred & thirty one Pagodas thirty Fanams & twenty Cash (231 ,, 30 ,, 20) Orderd that the Commissary pay the same on Account of Nabob Mahomud Alley Cawn.

The President lays before the Board the Country &ca. Correspondence.

Captn. Pigou advises that he detach'd the Party he was order'd for this Place the 24 Ultimo, that Mr. Smith who was Prisoner at Veloor was releas'd & arriv'd at Arcot.

Captn. Campbell at Chingalaput writes that he had detach'd Eight Men hither according to Order that the Killedar is at present Absent he desires therefore to be informed in what manner he is to collect the Grain from the People whether on Promise of Payment by the Company or the Nabob, he also advises that five of the french Topasses & one European Portuguese had en[listed].

Agreed that Captn. Campbell be [acquaint]ed the Grain is to be collected on the Nabob's Account.

By a Letter from the King of Ta[njore it] plainly appears that his Intentions are not to Join the Nabob till after the Harvest.

Mauphooz Cawn writes that he had join'd Abdul Bob Cawn & as Soon as they had collected Money to pay his Troops he would march to Join the Nabob.

Abdul Bob Cawn Advises in like Manner & desires that the Detachment of our Men with him may be Order'd to follow his Direction as it is necessary to march into the Trivatore Country to settle it & the Officer refuses to go beyond Conjeveram.

Agreed that Abdull Bob Cawn be Acquainted that the most material Point at present is to reinforce the Nabob which We insist on his do[ing with]out Delay & the Settling the Districts he spea[ks of] may be done afterwards.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

The Detachment mention'd in the Minutes of last Consultation being embarkd on the Cuddalore Sloop & Recovery Snow, Instructions to Capt. Benjamin Pigou & General Letter to Major Lawrence are now sign'd as follow. 9.

To Captain Benjamin Pigou.

Sir,

We have sent on board the Recovery Snow lying in the Road a Detachment of one Hundred & 12 Men including Officers agreeable to a List enclosed on receipt of this you will also embark & take the Command of them, the Commander of the Snow has our Directions to proceed in Company with the Durrington & Cuddalore Sloop as far as Fort S^t. David Road & from thence to make the best of his way to Deve Cotah where on his Arrival M^r. Hopkins the Chief will order the said Detachment to be landed, We have also embark'd on the Cuddalore Sloop another Detachment of Sixty one Men as ℔. Margin & order'd the Commander to touch at Fort S^t. David where the Coffreys & six of the Topasses are (if possible) to be exchanged for Europeans & as soon as that is done, he's immediately to proceed to Deve Cotah where the whole Detachment is also to be landed & join'd to that sent on the Recovery the whole being intended to reinforce the Army under the Command of Major Lawrence whose Orders you are to obey in all things & untill you receive them you are to follow such as shall be given you by Richard Starke Esqr. Deputy Governour of Fort S^t. David or M^r. Charles Hopkins Chief of Deve Cotah.

1 Adjutant.
2 Serjeants.
1 Drummer.
27 Topasses.
30 Coffreys.
—
61.

We are Sir

Your Affectionate Friends

Fort S^t. George.
9th. March 1754.

Thos. Saunders &c^a. Council.

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr. Commander in Chief of all the Company's Forces in India.

Sir,

We wrote to you the 25th. Febry & enclose a Duplicate which contains our Sentiments so f[ully that] we need only refer to it We shall however as soon as the hurry of the Durrington's Dispatch is over write you what may further Occur in the mean Time this is to advise you that We have sent on the Recovery Snow to Deve Cotah a Detachment of m. l. g, p, d, f, p, m, r, a, (113) including Captains Pigou & Lin & Lieutenant Smith, We have also sent on the Cuddalore Sloop to S^t. David another Detachment of a, g, u, d, f, p, m, (61) including Lieutenant Patterson of which f. g, q, m, z, e, a, (27) are Topasses, & n, b, r, n, z, , d, (30) are Coffreys, all the latter & m, f, w, g, a, (6) of the former We have desir'd the Gentlemen there to Excha[nge for] Europeans, & immediately dispatch the Sloop to Deve Cotah, on her, & the Recovery's Arrival there M^r. Hopk[ins has] our Directions to land the Men, forward this Letter to You, & observe your Directions,

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants,

Thos. Saunders.
Charles Boddam.
Henry Powney.
Alex^r. Wynch.
John Smith.
Charles Bourchier.

Fort S^t. George.
9th. March 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

WEDNESDAY THE 13TH.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

No. 35. Two General Letters from Major Lawrence read as follow Vizt.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

The Dolloway some Days ago sent a Message to me by Letter concerning the Bill drawn on him which he still refuses & says he cannot think it reasonable to pay the Bill of a Man detain'd by force he further desir'd in his Letter that I might send Poniapah to him for he wanted to talk with him, having Consulted with the Nabob We agreed to let him go, he had an Audience, in which Nanderauze told him he was willing to treat & propos'd the following Conditions that for 60 Lacks ready Money to withdraw his Troops & make a Peace tho the Expence of the War had been to him 120 Lack, that he would not, nor could not Accept of Country's for Security because the Nabob might be turn'd out & then his Successor might not approve of such Agreement. the other Condition was that if We would give up the Fort he wou'd repay us the Expence we had been at in maintaining the War about Trichenopoly, but no where else. These, Gentlemen are his Terms you will see what is proper to be done, the Money I know cannot be got but could he be persuaded to accept of Turnevelly [*sic*] & Madera Country's, & be put in possession of them till the Payment of the Sum the Nabob Would agree to that, the other Condition you often have weigh'd so cannot be at a Loss whether to accept or refuse he also told Poniapah that the King of Tanjore had join'd him We are in hopes that, that may be more to create a Jealousy between us than really so. Tho We are certain that they have been dealing together & money offer'd on one side & Promises made by the other, to prevent any Mistrust that our seeming to treat might create in the King of Tanjore on hearing We had a Conference, I wrote him Word when they desir'd it, and also the Substance of the Discourse when Poniapah came back, & desir'd his Opinion on the Terms offer'd this open way of acting appears to me safer then a cunning that creates mistrust I have not heard from you since the 31st. January, We have certain Assurances of Mauphis Cawn's March & Abdul Bob Cawn's having Joind his Troops in Order to move this way, it would be proper I should know the Road they intend taking that if a Junction was necessary before their Arrival here, it might be made. I hope you have receiv'd mine of the 18 Ultimo, for those of the 2d. & 4th. I almost despair of however shall wait a little & then send you Copies. Captn. Pascall & Gardiner are both oblig'd to leave me on Account of their Health Captn. Pascall is arriv'd before this at St. David & Captn. Gardiner sets out to night Captns. D'Ellens & Polier continue Ill in the Fort & three Officers besides. I am.

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient & most

Humble Servant

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

P.S. Pray for the future order Your Secretary to Number yr. Letters.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [13th].

To The Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &c.a. Council
of Fort St. George. No. 36.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I wrote you the 2d. Instant & have receiv'd no Letters since the 31st. January, if you will Consider my Situation Gentlemen you ought to think of my uneasiness. This Day the Nabob receiv'd Letters from his Vacquil & his Buxy at Tanjore they confirm what I before hinted that Affairs are made up between the Mysore & Tanjore King for 9 Lack Rupees whether it only extends to a neutrality or open Hostility we cannot tell. Tondimans Vacquil from thence is also gone to treat for his Masters. Provisions are hardly to be got these three Days we have been oblig'd to, live on the Fort if proper Measures are not taken, and as soon as resolv'd, put in Execution; the Consequence is clear—I am asham'd to mention Mr. Palk again I have so often done it, & to no purpose that it is but exposing my Advice to propose it again but let your Opinions be what they will, I still in Justice to those I am employ'd by think myself bound to tell you, whatever my Advice may be thought of, that perhaps you have done us by not sending him more harm than you will have it in your Power to make us amends for & that it is yet the only Method you have to pursue.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Stringer Lawrence.

Camp the
5th: March 1754.

P.S. I omitted numbering my last,
it ought to have been 35, this, No. 36.

The Board are of Opinion that the King of Tanjore's Interest is so opposite to that of the Dallaway that it is very impossible he should enter into an offensive Alliance with him but that it is to be fear'd from his late Behaviour the Threats of Mr. Dupleix & Morarow have prevail'd with him to agree to a Neutrality, should this be the Case the Enemy must in the End gain their Point as the Difficulty of getting Provisions even for the subsistence of the Army will be greatly encreas'd & the throwing a twelve Month's Store into Trichinopoly render'd impracticable, & without such a quantity that place must inevitably fall to the Enemy should our Army march from thence or the Enemy receive any Considerable Reinforcements, the Board are therefore of Opinion that the Measures to be pursued are to desire Mr. Palk will proceed to Tanjore as soon as possible to negociate with the King of Tanjore & that he be particularly Instructed to acquaint the King that our Affairs & the Nabob's are so Circumstanc'd that however desirous We may be of protecting his Country & supporting the Circar his Behaviour will very shortly put it out of Power & that as the Difficultys are daily encreasing by his inactivity we must be oblig'd to treat with the Dalloway for the Surrender of Trichinopoly unless he will heartily Join the Nabob & Assist in defending it & the Board are further of Opinion that unless the King of Tanjore will upon this Demand declare & act openly & vigorously for the Nabob there is no other Measure to be pursued but to agree with the Dalloway for the Delivery of Trichinopoly on the Terms formerly propos'd which the President acquaints the Board Vencatarow the Mysore Vackeel has assur'd him his Master is still ready to comply with Agreed that Major Lawrence Messrs. Starke & Cooke be acquainted herewith & their Opinion desired.

On considering the Parole given by two of our Officers Prisoners at Syringham as mention'd in the Major's Letter of the 25th. Febry—& enter'd in the Minutes of these Occurrences of 4th. Instant, the Board are of Opinion that it is improper as they thereby acknowledge themselves to be Prisoners to Salabat Jing which is a Confession that we are in Arms against him, & the promise of surrend'ring themselves upon Demand to his Lieutenant is either uncertain or means some Person we do not

[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

acknowledge as such; the Nabob Anaverde Cawn being the only Lieutenant to the Prince of Decan that We know of in this Province, that as they were taken fighting against the Mysoreans the Parole should be given to them & the Board are further of Opinion that the said Officers should revoke that Parole by surrendering themselves to the Enemy they were Prisoners with, on which it is agreed to consult the Major.

Agreed that Ten Thousand (10,000) Pagodas be remitted by Bill to Tanjore for the use of the Army.

General Letter from Mr. Robert Westgarth read as follows.

To The Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &ca. Council
of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I hope you have receiv'd my last by the Neptune & Moor's Snow, & now send you my Account for last Month, with account of what I have disbursed for the new Vessell on the Stocks, & have taken the Liberty to draw on you for the amount thereof which be pleas'd to pay to Nicholas Morse Esqr. or Order at the Customary Rate of forty Pagodas ℔ Viss of Silver.

Since the Death of Governour Hunter I have been at the Court of Pegu to advise of his Death & to desire they would put the finishing Stroke to the Articles of Treaty sign'd & Ratified by Mr. Hunter, they told me they could not for they wanted to make some alteration in the Second & third Articles, they ask'd me if I had a Power to do it, which I told them I had not, so Affairs are now at a Stand, & cannot be finish'd till somebody come here with full Power to treat with them, as for me I cannot give them Assurances of any thing more than is Stipulated by that Treaty wherin they say we seem to want every thing for the Company & give them Nothing & they cannot perceive any Visible View how the King of Pegu can be a gainer by those Articles, they want to have something at present to fill & please their greedy Eye but don't look to futurity & the well doing of their Kingdom which in several Parts of their new Conquest is in open Arms against them, the King of Pegu has lost the City of Ava & the upper [*sic*] Rajah is now on his way to go against Ataum chuboo, the Present head of the Birmahs with an Army said to consist of 200,000 Men which I believe the Birmah will stand but a poor Chance to encounter.

Yesterday the upper Rajah with his Army left this Place with whom I had a great deal of discourse in regard to Persaim, & that Governments usage to Mr. Taylor who has made several Complaints about them, & have obtain'd strict Orders from the Rajah, that, that Government must behave in a different Manner otherwise he will make them suffer for their Disobedience, & the Rajah will be within a Day's Journey of Persaim, where he has Order'd the Governour of that Place, & Mr. Taylor to wait on him where he will grant what Mr. Taylor desires.

Enclos'd is the Rajah's Letter to your Honour &ca. wherein he applys to you for Forces &ca. & desires me to tell you to send any part of them, or Ammunition by the first Conveyance, as they are at present greatly wanted. Mr. Necouse brings you the Duplicate of their Letter, who will inform you of the King & Rajah's Intentions, but notwithstanding all Mr. Necouse's fair outward Appearances I can hardly yet think him quite sincere to our Interest; I believe his Preceptor here the Italian Priest who is one of the Agents, infuses strange notions into his head in regard to us, & the french have some grand Project in View in Regard to this Place, & if they can raise Forces, by what Intelligence I have will very soon pay us a Visit here I shall not fail of giving you all the early Intelligence I can by all Conveyances,

I remain with great Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient Humble Servant
Robert Westgarth.

Syrian
16th. Febry 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [13TH.]

The Bill of Exchange drawn by Mr. Westgarth as advis'd in the foregoing Letter being now presented for acceptance the Board refuse the same his Accounts being irregular & Extravagant.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

The following General Letter No. 1 to Major Lawrence sign'd & sent. 18TH.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

No. 1.

Our last to you was the 9th. Instant & those we have to acknowledge the Receipt of are of the 25th. Febry No. 34 No. 35. without Date & of the 5th. Instant No. 36. We are concern'd none of ours have reach'd you since the 31st. Janry it is the most particular as none from you have miscarried, & the Nabob has receiv'd one; his Vackeel wrote him the 18th. Ultimo, Inclos'd are Duplicates of our Severals except one of the 25th. a Duplicate of which went with our last.

The Parole the Gentlemen have given seems to have been impos'd on them entirely unacquainted with the Nature of the Country Government for it imply's that they were taken in Arms acting against Salabad Jing & obliges them to be Subservient to the will of his Deputys, It is not mention'd who these Deputy's are but Mr. Dupleix Affirms he is & consequently should the Paroles be accepted 'twill be an Acknowledgement of the Legality of his Government & at the same Time a Confession that We were acting against Salabad Jing whereas we know Mr. Dupleix only as the Governour of Pondicherry & have really been fighting for the Circar against the Mysore King & his Allies to Him [*sic*] whom the Parole We conceive should be given & that those Officers do not give the other.

We approve of your Appointment of Messrs. Clarke & Airey & as there are Vacancy's Commissions will be sent them.

In regard to the King of Tanjore we cannot think he would act offensively We rather are inclin'd to believe him irresolute that the Threats & promises of the French induce him to promise them Neutrality which in Effect will serve their Purpose Mr. Palk will as soon as a Passport arrives set out for Tanjore him we empower to represent to the King that his Dilatory Manner of Proceeding must terminate in his Ruin & to know from him his final Resolution which will enable us to pursue our own Measures.

The Dalloway offers to accomodate Affairs for 60 Lack for no other reason than because he knows 'tis impossible for the Nabob to raise it nay he rejects the only means by which it could be done; We wish he would accept a Mortgage on Maddara & Turnavely but as this has been so often offer'd & rejected since the Surrender of Syringham We have been long since convinc'd the last only are the Terms he will accept the King of Tanjore has several times amus'd us in the Negociation upon better Terms but if upon Mr. Palks remonstrance he does not alter his Measures We are to come to a Resolution to do it whilst We can & are in this vindicated as Monsr. Dupleix tell us 'tis his Intention to do the same, the only thing to be apprehended is that when the King of Tanjore finds We are in Earnest he will make his own Terms.

We propos'd Joining our Detachment with that of Mauphez Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn The President wrote to them when Abdul Bob Cawn pleaded that they were greatly in Arrears to both his & Mauphez Cawn's Horse & could not prevail

[18th.] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

on them to stirr till they were Satisfied to accomplish which they must go against the Pollygars to raise Money which would take up a Considerable Time in short finding there was no dependance on them the late ill Success requiring your being speedily reinforc'd & as great Dependance was on it to prevent Accidents We embark'd them on the Cuddalore Sloop & Recovery Snow who were Convoy'd to St. David by the Durrington & have proceeded to Deve Cotah Where they will wait your Orders & We hope to hear of a happy Junction. The President has Press'd Abdull Bob Cawn & Mauphez Cawn to send their Horse to Deve Cotah from whence they might proceed with Ease; but so dilatory & uncertain are their Measures that We cannot depend on them.

Inclos'd is a Bill on Linga Chitty's People for Pagoda's 10,000.

Though Salabad Jing is said to have march'd from Aurungabad we dont hear of his nearer approach.

If the Contractor Mr. Alexander Wynch should be in want of Money & you can assist him without distressing yourself please to do it.

With this you'll receive Copys of the Letters of the Nabob & King of Tanjore

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
18th. March 1754.

20. Rec'd the following General Letters No. 37 & 38 from Major Lawrence Vizt.

To THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

No. 57. I have receiv'd your Favours of the 19th: 24th: & 25th: Febry and Copies of the 6th: The Original of which fell into the Enemy's Hands.

When I ask'd you for Orders Gentlemen, It could not be imagin'd that I requir'd any on the Military Operations for the Field; of which only the Commander, & the Officers on the Spot can be most competent Judges of. The Direction then is prudently left to our supposed judgement in our Profession; & according to that, & the Enemy's motions We act. But what I meant was Orders in Consequence of the General Plan you must have laid down; knowing how Things were Situated. You Gentlemen are my Superiours, a Majority of Voices in your Council fixes your Determinations; & then [these?] if Practicable, are to be put in Execution by me, or attempted: For in this critical Juncture when you know I cannot attack the Enemy; when my staying here may be attended with the worst of Consequences, such as being oblig'd to yield for want of Provisions; When the People round us are so fluctuating that my marching is attended with a great Risque; would You have me then at such a Time when any one of these Steps may Ruin what We have been striving for this long Time; wou'd you have me then I say act without Orders, & so take the whole Blame (which must fall on me, should I miscarry) It is your Duty to give me Instructions Your Orders are a Sanction from Blame on either side; You must direct & I execute.

You ask me my advice. Examine it impartially Gentlemen with what Colour can you ask me for that you have so often refus'd to take when offer'd & what still

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [20TH.]

must hurt me more, never gave me Reasons why rejected. I would have submitted to any, but was not thought even worth that Notice; For any Man may Err in Opinion, but when it proceeds from a true Principle, the Publick Good, I think the least that can be done then is to point out to him where he Errs, by making your Objections. I shall drop this Subject, I am sorry I have been oblig'd to touch on it. Every thing with me shall give way to our common Interest. Receive my Opinion, or advice which you will on what you have ask'd.

1st Whether on Salabajings march we should acknowledge him, & Obey his Orders. Or Oppose him Vigourously Or chuse a Medium.

The Medium in my Opinion is the best, a Deputation may be sent him & as it is very plain that Mr. Dupleix's scheme is the Government of the Country for himself, & all these People he employs only as Tools & Agents to his grand Design this endeavour'd to be made clear to him. That if he is willing to hinder the attempt of an Ambitious Man that wants to overturn the form of a whole Country; its Religion & Laws, & to allow the Nabob his Right, We will Joyn with him & oppose with all our Force, such Measures as tend to Destroy the Peace & Quiet of a whole Country. that all the Rights that We demand or any Europeans ought to have, are a few Settlements with a little Country for their Bounds allotted to them; & a Liberty for a free Trade. That if any Man of our Nation's pretended to more, & show Grants, & Saneds for a great Principality in that Empire (which were proved Forgeries) such a Man can have no other Design but to Enslave the Country; & ought to be oppsed, [*sic*] & prevented by every Man in it. I must observe to you It would not be improper to send People to the Nabob's & Pollygars, as far as We could conveniently; to Acqaint them with this Affair of the Saneds. Show them plainly the french Scheme, Stir up the whole Country to the Defence of their Laws & Liberties & Religion the Loss of which must be the case should they succeed.

Nor would it do us any Harm if the Dutch were acquainted with the Affair of the Congress, & a Copy of that Letter from Mr. Saunders to the Deputies sent to their head Settlement on this Coast.

2dly: If Salabajung will not treat whether to abandon or maintain the Forts. Destroy the Ammunition in them, carry of what Guns We could, & the others made useless; & Blow up the Fortifications in my Opinion is the only way. Then let the Armies in the Field decide the Affair.

3dly: I think it impossible to preserve the Forts, & oppose the Enemy.

4thly: Without any Infringement of the Peace subsisting between the two Nations in Europe, We may at the Nabob's Request move the Prisoners to our Settlements. that can be warranted full as well as their Violent Proceedings which you have so Strongly represented to the Deputies.

When Money Arrives sufficient to leave in the Fort, I intend marching towards Tanjore; & to meet the Party which I wish could be contriv'd to march with Mauphis Cawn's reinforcement. however before this happens; or the Detachment moves from Deve Cotah, Or I to joyn them, Mr. Palk must be at Tanjore, & see how the King is dispos'd to receive us. For if he is declar'd against us other Measures must be pursued. there is another Thing Gentlemen, that if Tanjore does not Join us, the Reinforcement you propose sending me will not enable us to do any Thing.

As to the Article of Provisions I have told you that I cannot get in but barely enough to subsist from Day to Day. If We can keep that way is all can be expected. you know how much there is in the Fort. sufficient to leave it secure enough.

You desire the Nabob to write to his Brother, to furnish Arcot, & Chingalaput. Let that be part of your Care Gentlemen. what he writes is of little force. Should the Seat of War be remov'd to that Country & the Forts not supplied; It would be but moving the distressed Scene to another part, & losing the whole by Degrees. Paddy is the only Grain that will keep, & Rice for present Consumption.

I hope the Overture to the King of Tanjore on a certain Subject may alarm him sufficiently to procure Us his acting Alliance. but if not the last shift must take

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place. For if even Salabajung does not come down the Reinforcement will be of no Service against the Number of the Enemy here unless the King of Tanjore strongly Assists us.

Great Care should be taken that when Mauphis Cawn does come he may have Money sufficient for his undertaking which must be made clear to you. For should [he] come to us, & in a Mouth's Time want that necessary Article; he had better stay where he is for We cannot supply him.

Whatever has occurr'd to me Gentlemn. I have given you my Opinion to the best of my Judgement.

I thank you for the speedy & Effectual Supplies of Money you have sent me, I hope we shall receive it soon, & safe.

Why will you listen to the Reports of Deserters, when you have my Assurances that you are misinform'd? It is not right thus to contradict an Assertion of mine, of which I am Eye Witness; to the bare saying of a Deserter, who will tell you any thing he thinks most likely to please. As to Provisions they have 20 Measures for a Rupee, this We know every Day from our Spies.

Captain Witherington & the other Officers are arriv'd at Tanjore I shall send them Orders to come up immediately.

As to the Deve Cotah Detachment I shall send them Orders to wait there till I hear from Mr. Palk at Tanjore.

Captn. Pascall might be well when he left Deve Cotah, but the Surgeons here all agreed he had a very bad Fever besides the Pain he complains of in his Side. Any Officer Sick is not fit for the Service, & must always have Leave to go away. or if any Officer is capable of making such a Complaint, without Reason, I'm sure he is neither fit for nor ought to be kept in any Service whatever.

I send you inclos'd the Nabob's Order as desir'd for the Charges we are at on his Account.

I intend sending Ramah Naigue to Tondiman he may be of Service there.

There are some few Paragraphs more which I shall answer to morrow some Business having occurr'd which oblige me to conclude. I am Gentlemen your most Obedient & most humble Servant.

Camp the
17th. March 1754. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

No. 38. Honble Sir & Sirs,

In the hurry last Night of Dispatching my Letters, In order to send them by a safe opportunity; my Secretary omitted to enclose the Nabobs Order as I advis'd you of, which I send you now

The Complaint of the French Officer (as he is call'd) was unjust & groundless. He was never acknowledg'd as such by any of their Gentlemen with us or even mention'd; he was in the Hospital of which always the greatest Care has been taken by Doctor Willson, for which indeed he has been but indifferently repaid.

When the French sent Subsistence for their People Mr. Willson said he would maintain those in the Hospital, & transmit his Accounts Monthly to Mr. Dupleix, not in the least doubting Payment & knowing it was impossible for sick Men, to have the necessary Conveniences upon the same small Allowance the other Prisoners had of 6 Rupees a Month he charg'd them at about the same Subsistence as We allow our Soldiers. Mr. Dupleix will neither pay the Charge he has made: nor allow him the same as the other Men. That Gentleman has very rightly given up the Charge

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [20TH.]

of Subsisting them, & leaves them to provide as well as they can out of their small Allowance. The Situation of our Affairs will not allow us to give the other Prisoners the Indulgences we could wish. but for every Conveniency that we can with Safety ; they have ; of which Captn : Kilpatrick takes the greatest Care.

You have mention'd Gentlemen Mr. Godwin. there is now a Vacancy by Mr. Revell's Death of a first Lieutenancy which you may give him ; As also the Quarter Master's Post. I think him Worthy & capable of both. having always behav'd as an Active brisk & good Officer I shall wait your Orders, If you think proper to appoint him.

I beg leave to recommend another Person to you Gentlemen for your Notice. tis our Commander of Sea Poyes by Name Mahomed Ysof ; Besides his Intelligence, & Capacity, I cannot too much praise his Zeal & Alacrity for the Service. He always prevents my asking by offering himself for every thing ; & Executes what he goes about as well & as briskly as he attempts it some mark of your Regard by a Letter, & Some little Present would keep up that usefull Spirit, besides rewarding Merit.

I have receiv'd as I acquainted you yesterday Copies of those Letters dated the 6th. with the Dolloways, K of Tanjore, & Nabob's enclos'd, & have had the Copies Translated, & sent to the King of Tanjore' & the one for the Dolloway, I intend sending Poniapah with. If the French have not return'd him the Original. that proceeding & the Purport of the Letter may Cause a Jealousy.

In the Exchange of Prisoners M. Astruc is not to be thought of he is of no great Consequence M. Pasco at Chingalaput is the most Intelligent Officer they have.

The Enemy talk of Coming on the Plain, I wish they would, we may see then what is to be done.

I am Gentlemen, your most Obedient & most humble Servant.

Camp the
8th. March 1754.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

The following General Letter No. 2 to Major Lawrence sign'd and sent. 21.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA

No. 2.

Sir,

Since ours of the 18th. We have receiv'd yours of the 7th. & 8th. Instant we concurr entirely with you in what you wrote that the Opinion of the Board forms & you Execute such Plans as may be for the good of the Service & when We ask your Opinion 'tis as one of the Council this We digest with our own & after a mature Consideration of whatever may be the Subject of Debate the Majority fixes the Determination. Councils form'd of different Men cañot alway [*sic*] be unanimous but no Exception is taken to a Difference in Opinion & if We pursue any Measures contrary to your Opinion given you are Indemnified & we responsible for the Event We shall in all Cases give you our Orders, but so many are the Accidents that may happen between our Receipt of yours & your's of our Letters that a Disentional [*sic*] Power must be left to you to act as such Circumstances may have varied the Situation, at the present Juncture when you describe that in staying you may be oblig'd to surrender for want of Provisions & that marching may be attended with a great Risque, We think that before drove to Extremity for want of Provisions the Risk of a March is to be preferr'd to a Certain Surrender. We hope neither of these will be the Case & if it should We rest Satisfied that you would act for the best.

Your Sentiments in regard to Salabad Jing are pretty much the same as ours. Inclos'd is Copy of a Letter wrote to Syde Lascar Cawn some Months past which very plainly points out the Enemy's Intentions. the Sending the Copy of the Letter to the Dutch can be of no Disservice. but if the Loss of a Factory of so much Consequence as that of Matchlepatam whill [*sic*] not secure them what will.

[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

There is no appearance of Mauphez Cawn's moving he is gone against Bomeraz the Pollygar & Abdul Bob Cawn is at Trivatore. We shall press them to march but really believe they cannot till they have raised Money. We have some time past order'd the Officers at Arcot & Chingalaput to put paddy into the Fort as no dependance can be plac'd in Abdul Bob Cawn.

Salabad Jing's coming is Doubtfull.

If the King of Tanjore should not Join we are sensible you are not able to Contest the Point & his standing Neuter he must know gives the Enemy the Forts the last is the only Alternative & when he finds that we are resolv'd on it he will certainly make his own Terms & we possibly may be disappointed in ours. Vencatarow's Proposals to the President Mr. Palk who sets out as Soon as Possible will communicate to you.

The Nabob's Order is receiv'd with your Letter of the 8th.

Advices say 120 of our Prisoners are Arriv'd at Pondicherry from Caracull; as Mr. Dupleix thinks he has Authority to keep English Prisoners at Pondicherry surely. We may do it in our Settlements. I suppose you will not be ask'd for their Subsistence if they demand it they must pay for the Prisoners at St. David & Chingalaput We shall advice Mr. Dupleix that if he does not enlarge his Allowance to his People they must starve.

We approve of your appointments of Lieutenant & quarter Master to Mr. Godwin & shall take Notice of Mahomed Isouff the Commander of Seapoys as you desire.

We are glad that our Letters which were pretty particular have escap'd the Enemys hands.

Your Opinion concerning the Parole impos'd on our Officers will be acceptable Monsr. Pascaud & another are purpos'd to be exchang'd as he is their best Officer ours going on Parole would be the most proper; the Parole of ours ought we think to be to the Dalloway.

The King of Tanjore in a Letter just receiv'd from him mentions what you wrote concerning the Dallaways Proposals & says his Reply was that you should communicate it to the President that he was ready to stand by what he might determine, alledging that he & the Nabob depended on us, We cannot think he by any Means likes the last Article. We are Sir, Your most Obedient Servants,

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
21st March 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

MONDAY THE 25TH :

The Reverend Mr. Palk having wrote to the Reverend Father Lavaur at Pondicherry to obtain Mr. Dupleix's Passport in Order to proceed to Fort St. David receiv'd this Day land for Answer that Mr. Dupleix will readily grant such a Pass provided he will engage his Word not to proceed any further than St. David.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [25TH.]

Whereupon it is order'd that the Company's Sloop Dragon now lying in this Road be put under Mr. Palk's Direction to carry him to Fort St. David or Deve Cotah as he shall find most Convenient for his Proceeding to Tanjore.

The President lays before the Board Translation of a Letter from the Head & Second Dalloway to Vencatrow the Mysore Vackeel empowering him to treat with the President on the Subject of their Demand on Trichinopoly, also a Memorial from the Vackeel containing Proposals for an Accomodation with the Nabob, the most material Articles of which are that the Fort of Trichinopoly is within a limited Time to be deliver'd up to the King of Mysore in Consideration whereof he is to pay off the Nabob's Debt to the Company & Assist the Nabob against his Enemys.

The Board having maturely consider'd the said proposals & the Situation of our Affairs are of opinion that no Time should be lost in terminating this Dispute with the Mysoreans & that as nothing will satisfie them but the Fort, it is more adviseable to consent to it than run the evident hazard of losing it without gaining any sort of Equivalent which would probably be the Case should Salabat Jing come into this Province or the French receive more Powerfull Succours from Europe than We it is therefore Agreed that Major Lawrence be empower'd to Treat & Conclude with the Dalloway even tho' the King of Tanjore should join the Nabob with his Forces & that in case Mr. Palk should proceed to Trichinopoly he be also empower'd to act jointly with the Major.

Major Lawrence having reccommended Mahomed Issof a Commandar of Seapoys as a very deserving officer & intimated that some Mark of Favour should be shewn him as an encouragement for his Behaviour.

Agreed a Commission be drawn out for him as Commander of all the Company's Seapoys & that he be presented at the same Time with a gold Medal.

There being several Vacancys in the Military Agreed that the following Promotions be made Vizt.

Captain Lieutenant	John Innis	} to be Captains.
Lieutenant	Joseph Smith	
Lieutenant	James Spears	Captain Lieutenant.
Ensigns.	John North	} Lieutenants.
	Daniel Campbell	
	John Fraser	
Voluntiers.	John Clark	} Ensigns.
	George Airey	

and that Lieutenant Benjamin Godwin of the Bengal Detachmt. have Commissions as first Lieutenant of the second Company of Artillery on this Establishment & quarter Master of Artillery, which still leaves vacancys for three Ensigns of which Major Lawrence is to be advis'd that in Case there should be any proper Persons in Camp he may reccommend them.

Agreeable to the foregoing Resolutions a general Letter to Major Lawrence & Instructions to Mr. Palk are order'd to be prepar'd.

Agreed that Ten Thousand Rupees & five Thousand Pagodas lost in the last Action be charg'd to the Account of Nabob Mahomed Ally.

Letter from the Reverend Father Lavaur, Messrs. De Bausset & De Kerjean is now read as enter'd in the Proceedings at the Conference at Sadras No. 23 being in Answer to the Presidents Letter to them enter'd with the said Proceedings No. 22, on which no new Subject arises, the Arguments they use being only a Repetition of what they have already urg'd.

Agreed that 30,000 Rupees be sent to the Negrais on the Cuddalore for the use of that Settlemt. & Syrian Residency.

General Letters to Mr. Henry Brooke Chief of the Negrais, Mr. Thomas Taylor Resident at Syrian, & Mr. Robert Westgarth are now sign'd as follow Vizt.

[25th.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

To Mr. Henry Brooke
Chief of the Negrais.

Sir,

By the Cuddalore Sloop which arriv'd here the 20th. January We receiv'd your Letter of the 11th. of that Month with the Several Duplicate Letters & Accounts, in it We are concern'd to find observe the Death of Mr. David Hunter at a Juncture when the King of Pegu had sent one of his Ministers to conclude the Treaty with him.

The Time you have resided at Pegue must We suppose have given you a tolerable knowledge of the Country & the Customs of the People & by being immediately under Mr. Hunter you cannot but be acquainted with his Plan of the Expedition, what Steps he has taken at the Court of Pegue & how they have been receiv'd; We therefore depending on your prudent Conduct & Circumspection, appoint you as Chief of the Island of Negrais & its Dependancies & do give you Power & Authority to treat, conclude & Ratifie any Treaty with the King of Pegue for obtaining a Grant for the Island Negrais &ca & other Liberties & Advantages of Commerce in that Kingdom for your Government herein you will observe the Instructions given to David Hunter Esqr. & what from the Accounts We have receiv'd of your Situation We shall now further point out to you.

The King of Pegue as might reasonably be expected is not over well pleas'd with our first settling & then asking his Leave, for the Negrais; & may be Jealous from hence that our Intentions towards him are not the most Friendly. 'tis your Business to fortifie the Place in such a Manner as to prevent any attempt from the Natives & at the same Time to use your utmost Endeavours to evince that the Sole of our Design is to secure a Place for the Repair of our Ships of large Burthen & to carry on a Trade beneficial to his Country & to maintain a perfect Friendship & Alliance with him We now enclose you Letters to the King & Uppa Rajah with Translates of them in these We have signified that having receiv'd advice of the Death of Mr. Hunter We have given you full and ample Power to manage our Affairs, to negociate, conclude & ratifie any Treaty with him in behalf of the Company & that We shall regard the same as done by ourselves, you will therefore on receipt of this notifie the same to the King & desire he will send one of his Ministers to conclude this Affair with you or if you find it more convenient proceed, yourself to Pegue We have sent over for his Majesty a Rich Pallanquin guilded & for the Uppa Rajah one of Silver these you will present when the properest Occasion offers & as we are inform'd the Uppa Rajah has a great Influence you may in our Name promise that in Case he gets this Business expeditiously dispatch'd We will send him to the amount of Seven or Eight Thousand Rupees in such Curiositys as he may write for the Revolt of the Burmur's may probably make them more inclinable to preserve a Friendship with us. By Mr. Hunters Diary We observe that the several Articles of Alliance were settled & probably had he liv'd would have been ratified We have not heard from you lately tho' several Vessells have imported here from Syrian. Mr. Westgarth writes that the King objects to the 2d. & 3d. * Article in the Preliminaries at Syrian and those sent fair from the Negrais differ being in one of them blended with the 6th. so that this is very obscure & we can only surmise by Mr. Westgarth's Letter that the King objects to our having a Liberty of Trade free of all Customs & Taxes especially in the inland Parts & that English Ships only shall be exempted from Customs importing at their Settlements. To these you may Answer that this Liberty is no more than what is granted to us on this Coast by the Mogull who is sensible that by this Indulgence We have been induc'd to cary on a very extensive Trade by which his Country has been enrich'd infinitely more than by his levying a trifling Custom on our Trade you may urge further that if We desire this Liberty in his Kingdom We give it also to him in all our Settlements that his Ship imported here last year Custom free, should they still persist in these Sentiments you may alter these Articles by stipulating that a Custom of 5 ℔ Ct. be paid on all Goods imported but

* In refferring to Mr. Hunters Occurrences we find the third Article.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [25TH.]

no More. We remark M^r. Westgarth has generally Loaded his Visit to the King or Prince with the Expence of a Present the first Visit has generally been attended with one but none afterwards instead of promoting it only hurts the Negociations you must therefore avoid as much as Possible this Custom.

The unhealthy situation of the Negrais & the Representation of M^r. Hunter that Persaim was the properest Place for the Capital Settlement has induc'd us to decline carrying on the Fortifications in the extensive manner he design'd, & to direct you pursue M^r. Knapton's Plan of fortifying the Pier till We are on a greater Certainty the Draught of M^r. Hunter is only the Fortification that of M^r. Knapton has a Rough Sketch of a part of the Island, M^r. Taylor's takes in the whole Island with the Bay to the North West & the Extremity of the great Negrais in that Point but still is very imperfect as We are at a Loss for the Bay to the South East & the Land that forms it, you will therefore order a Compleat Draught of the Island & Bay with the Land that forms it from the Extremity of the Point at South East Round to that at North West with the Exact Sounding at Spring & Nip Tides We cannot pretend at this Distance entirely to set aside M^r. Hunter's Opinion but must remark that the place he has pitch'd upon is by the information we have receiv'd in a Morass & by its Situation does not defend the Entrances of the Bay whereas a Battery on the South East & another on the North West Points would Command the only two Channells. & by what We can learn the North West is a Plain the South East a rising Ground & both probably more healthy as they lay open to the Sea Wind Whereas at present it comes to you through the Wood & over the Morass which very likely occasions the Sickliness of your People. The Reason he assign'd was the Convenience of Water if We are not misinform'd he has been in this Mistaken for 'tis reported to us that your Water is a Stream that comes from the Woods & possibly may be impregnated with their unwholsome Qualitys what confirms us in this is that the Peguers resorting to the Island never Drink it but digg Wells on the North W^st: Point & do not find themselves affected with Agues & Feavours you will therefore make a Trial both on the North West & South East parts & further, let some of your People reside a Month or two in these Parts by which Means you will have proof of it let the River also to Persaim be sounded & if Persaim is granted a District of 5 or 6 Miles round it will be Necessary.

Till Affairs are concluded We think 'twould be imprudent to erect any Buildings at Persaim you will therefore only accomodate yourselves with a slight Banksall which will serve the present Purpose.

The accounts sent us over by Mr. Westgarth are extreamly irregular & what he calls accounted for is lump'd in such a Manner that We cannot distinguish whether the Company has been fairly us'd but must suspect the Contrary till they are clear'd up the expences are exorbitant much beyond our Intention We inclose you the Accounts of Sundrys sent him with our Committees Report on his, you will make a strict Scrutiny into them inform us whether they are Just & transmit us your observations thereon. he has drawn upon us for several Sums at 2½ Tical ℔ Pagoda an Exchange so exorbitant that We have not accepted his Bill whenever you draw let it be for Rupees M^r. Westgarth's Conduct herein appears so Culpable that We have dismiss'd him from his Employment & order'd him over to the Coast to give us a proper Satisfaction let him come on the first Vessell.

In M^r. Westgarth's Stead We have appointed M^r. Thomas Taylor, Resident at Syrian under your Direction. We have fix'd his Allowance at Pagodas 50 ℔ Month to defray all expences whatsoever at that Factory in Case of your being at any Time oblig'd to go from the Negrais to Syrian or any where else he must take the Charge of the Island as We have order'd him to Succeed you in the Case of Accident you will appoint such Person as you think proper under your Direction to be at Persaim We cannot supply you with a Writing Assistant till the Ships Arrive from Europe. Inclos'd are Letters to Messrs. Taylor & Westgarth acquainting them with our Orders. also M^r. Knapton's Plan for fortifying the Pier.

[25th.] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

We observe Mr. Hunter has omitted to give you Pags. 20 ℔ Mt. for your Extraordinary Expences which you will charge & from the Receipt of this We allow you Pagodas 50 ℔ Month for your Table & Servants.

Receive of Mr. Thomas Taylor his Accounts & transmit them to us by which We shall be able to Judge what to allow him for the Time he has been on Service.

Agreeable to our Request the Gentlemen at Bengall advise that they have station'd the Egmont to relieve the Colchester & on her sent you such Stores Provisions & Artificers as were Requested We hope she is safe arriv'd with you Captn. Tolson has Orders to follow your Directions.

We dispatch'd the Porto Bello to you on the 4th. Novr. she lost her Passage & fell in with Vizagapatam she has since proceeded to you.

On the Cuddalore We have loaded Sundrys as ℔ Invoice & Bill of Loading she proceeds to Vizagapatam to take in Provisions & from thence will be dispatch'd to you 'tis not in our Power to send you Artificers from hence nor can We supply you wth. Provisions so well as the Gentlemen in Bengall therefore if your Occasions require you may send the Cuddalore Captn. Hammond there in August she may easily return to you in September by her write us fully of your Affairs & Reccommend your Letter to the Gvernour &ca. Council to be forwarded to us by first Opportunity.

Mr. William Perceval acquainting us that Mr. Hunter left Money in Dollars which is under your Charge & requesting Bills on Bengall you will receive the same into the Company's Cash at Arcot Rupees 254 ℔ 100 Ounces of Dollar Silver & draw Bills on the Governour & Council of Fort William payable to Messrs. Manningham & Frankland for the amount & credit this Presidency for it.

You acquaint us Colonel Scott had wrote for a large Quantity of Timber & Plank by such of the Company's Vessells as return there send what they can take in & let it be a general Rule that you do the same on all Vessells bound to the Coast if Teak is not procureable send what the Negrais Produces.

You must Discharge all Arrears due to the Military & Train as well as to the Arcot Snow & Fortune Sloop; the Cuddalore We have paid here.

Just as this Sloop was on Dispatch We receiv'd a Letter from Uppa Rajah advising that he had sent the Kings Proposals By Cojee Necoos who We expect here by this We imagine you will not be able to conclude any Thing till We see what they are We can only say that We think it would be better you do not proceed to Syrian but Correspond by Letters & if the King intimates any Thing to you concerning the Pallanquin procrastinate the sending them till you hear further from us acquainting his Majesty tis your Intention to wait on him with them yourself.

You will keep a Diary of Occurrences from the Time Mr. Hunter's Ends & constantly with your accounts transmit it to us by the Conveyances that may offer.

As several other Conveyances will offer for Pegue we shall by them write you what may be necessary.

We consign you on this Sloop thirty thousand Rupees out of which you are to supply Mr. Taylor with what may be Requisite for his Expences, your Allowance of Fifty Pagodas ℔ Month as well as his are to be accounted for at the Present Exchange of 378 Arcot Rupees for 100 Pagodas. We are Sir Your Affectionate Friends Thos. Saunders. Charles Boddam. Henry Powney. Alexr. Wynch. John Smith. Charles Bourchier.

Fort St. George.
25th. March 1754.

To Mr. Thomas Taylor.

Sir,

Mr. Robert Westgarth's Accounts appearing to us very irregular & his Charges far beyond what we ever intended we have found it necessary to remove him & do

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [25TH.]

now appoint you as Resident of Syrian in his Stead, subordinate to the Orders of Mr. Henry Brooke whom We have nominated Chief of the Negrais & in Case of any Accident to him you will take upon you the Charge of that Government & appoint such Person at Syrian as you may think most proper till our Pleasure be known We have Wrote Mr. Brooke fully concerning our Affairs & you will pay a strict Regard to such Orders and Directions you Receive from him As we are resolv'd to have our Expences on a settled footing We allow you P. 50 ℔ Month for all Expences you must conform your manner of living thereto as to those Idle Charges of Visits to the Prince &ca. &ca. they never were known till introduc'd by Mr. Westgarth & can by no means be allow'd. We are Sir Your Affectionate Friends THOS. SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
the 25th. March 1754.

P.S. Send us a particular Account of the Cash Stores &ca. that were put under your Charge from hence.

To MR. ROBERT WESTGARTH AT SYRIAN.

Sir,

On looking into your Accounts they appear extreamly irregular the Charges exorbitant & many Articles lumped in such a manner that they are not intelligible which makes it highly necessary they should undergo a Strict Scrutiny on which We shall be pleas'd to find you clear up several Particulars that at present We are not at all satisfy'd with, on receipt of this you will therefore deliver over to Mr. Thomas Taylor or the Person Mr. Brooke may appoint, The Hon'ble Company's Factory & Effects under your Care, & take the first Opportunity to repair hither to adjust your Accounts with the Company, in the mean Time if Mr. Brooke should desire of you an Explanation of any Articles in those Accounts We expect you will not hesitate to give him all the Light he may desire. We are Sir your affectionate Friends THOS. SAUNDERS. CHAS. BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
25th. March 1754.

Letters from the President to the King of Pegue & Uppa Rajah are also read & approv'd as enter'd in the Country Correspondence.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence.

Captain Campbell at Chingalaput writes that the Country People are very backward in furnishing Paddy for the Store of the Fort & pretend they have already sold their Grain & receiv'd the Value, that the Chief & Second of Sadrass are also buying up Grain in that District whereon he desires directions as the permitting them to carry any Quantity away will render it more Difficult for him to get a Sufficiency for the Fort.

In answer whereto the President wrote him to seize all the Grain he can find without paying any Regard to the Pretensions of the Dutch or others as the Fort must be Supply'd & it is the Nabob's positive Order.

Ensign Paccard advises of a Skirmish he had near Trivatore with a party of Enemy who were oblig'd to retreat into a Fort leaving Twenty Men Dead in the Field & many Wounded but not one European hurt except himself, being slightly Wounded in the Hand, that on hearing of a Reinforcement from Gingee coming to the Enemy's Assistance he thought proper to Retreat to Conjeveram.

[25TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*——

Ibrahim Ally Cawn Son of Jaffer Ally Cawn late Nabob of Rajahmundrum writes very pressingly of the Distresses of his Family occasion'd by the deceitfull Behaviour of Viziaram Rauze which has reduc'd them so low that they can Scarce support Themselves requesting therefore the Company's Protection & Assistance he also advises that before the Misfortunes which have of late befallen his Family they sent a Ship hither Loaded with Grain which he desires the President will dispose of & remit him the Produce.

The Board are of Opinion that as Jaffer Ally Cawn when in Power shew'd a great Many Favours to the English his Family should be accomôdated as well as possible at Vizagapatam where they now are, without putting the Company to any extraordinary Expence, & in regard to the Ship & Grain, that they be sold & the Produce remitted as Desir'd.

Nabob Anaverde Cawn encloses a Bond or Writing whereby he acknowledges that the Circar is to make Good to the Company whatever they have already advanc'd or may hereafter expend in Assisting to settle him in his Government. he writes very pressingly for the Troops with Mahauphooz, & Abdul Bob Cawn & desires that the Detachment we intend sending may Join them & march together.

The King of Tanjore writes that the 6th. Instant he receiv'd Advices from Balazarow that he was resolv'd to come into this Country with all possible Speed & that the Hircars say he was set out from Ponnah & was advanc'd twenty Country Leagues this way with an Army of Sixty Thousand Horse & Forty thousand Seapoys, he also writes that Major Lawrence had acquainted him that the Dalloway had propos'd an Accomodation on the following Terms either that the Nabob should pay him 60 Lack of Rupees in ready Money for his Charges or that the Fort should be deliver'd to him in which Case he would pay whatever had been expended on that Account upon which he (the King of Tanjore) wrote the Major that he left the Decision of this Affair entirely to the President.

Letter from Mahauphoos Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn in Answer to Letters from the President pressing them to March to the Nabob's Assistance, urging the former Plea that the Arrears due to their Troops prevents their Marching but that as soon as they have Collected a sufficency from the Pollygars, or if We will lend them half a Lack of Pagodas they will proceed.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Agreeable to Resolution of Consultation the following Letters to Major Lawrence & Mr. Palk are sign'd & sent Vizt.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER
IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

We have not any Letters from you unanswer'd our last was Dated the 21st. Instant.

Affairs seem to be drawing so near to a Crisis with Circumstances that promise nothing favourable to our Cause, that however disagreeable an Accomodation with the Dalloway may be to us on the Terms so often insisted on by him it yet appears to us at present preferable to the evident Risque of losing the Fort & exposing the Army to imminent Danger which We think would be the Case should Salabat Jing come into this Province of which there is great probability, We have confirm'd Advices since we wrote you that he is already on his March & advanc'd 5 Days on this Side

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [25th.]

Aurangabad & 'tis beyond all Doubt the French will leave no means untry'd to bring him on, The King of Tanjore advises that Ballazerow will also come but this is contradicted, it is said Salabat Jing may be here in a Month & half. As no Time is therefore to be lost We have come to a Resolution to close with the Dalloway on the Terms offer'd by his Vackeel with a few alterations which he gives us Reason to believe his Master will rather grant than break off the Treaty We send you in this Packet for your Information Copy of a Letter from the Head & Second Dalloway to Vencatrow & a Representation from Vencatrow to the President containing his Proposals, also an Abstract of the Terms on which We formerly empower'd Mr. Cooke to Treat, compar'd with the Mysore Vackeells proposals & the Difference between the two pointed out that you may have at once a Clear View of the Terms collected from both & on which We are willing to conclude We digest them here in distinct Articles.

1st. That the King of Mysore shall renounce his Alliance with the French & enter into an Alliance with Nabob Anaverde Cawn to settle him in his Government of the Carnateck.

2d. That he draw off Morarow from the French & engage him to enter into an Alliance with the Nabob to settle him in his Government.

3d. That untill this be effected the King of Mysore shall defray at his own Expence the whole Charge of the Mysore & Moratta Troops.

4th. That the King of Mysore shall secure to the Company the whole Debt due to them by Nabob Anaverde Cawn to be paid by the Savacars in Madrass on delivery of the Fort of Trichinopoly at the Time hereinafter stipulated.

5th. That on delivery of the said Fort to the King of Mysore he shall also pay to the Nabob Ten Lacks of Rupees & assign him such a District of the Mysore Country with a Fort in the same as shall produce Annually two Lacks of Rupees.

6th. That the King of Mysore shall grant to the English the Sole & Exclusive Priviledge of trading in his Country & no other Europeans whatsoever shall be permitted to partake of it.

7th. In Consideration of all which Articles to be done & perform'd by the King of Mysore the Fort of Trichinopoly shall be deliver'd over to him within twelve Months from the Conclusion of this Agreement & that on signing the same (or within such reasonable Time as the Parties shall agree on) all the Forces & Effects of Nabob Anaverde Cawn (provision not included which is to remain there for the Benefit of the King of Mysore) shall be withdrawn & the said Fort shall be & remain Garrison'd by English Troops only untill the Time stipulated for the delivery thereof.

8th. That a due Proportion according to former Agreement of all the Cannon & Warlike Stores taken at Seringham shall be deliver'd to the King of Mysore at the same Time as the Fort.

9th. That the English will guarantee to the King of Mysore the Peaceable Possession of the Said Fort.

10th. That the King of Tanjore if he chuses it shall be admitted into this Alliance & the peaceable Possession of his Dominions shall be guaranteed to him by all the Parties.

11th. Lastly that this Treaty may be the more beneficial to all the Parties Vizt. the English, The Nabob, King of Mysore & King of Tanjore they do mutually agree to defend each others Possessions against the Attacks and attempts of an Enemy who may invade the same.

It is possible objections may be started to several Particulars in the foregoing Articles but that the Treaty may not on that Account be protracted for want of sufficient Instructions we shall now give you our Thoughts on such as seem the most liable to Difficultys.

1st. It is probable the Dalloway may object to the 3d. Article, in that Case as the Nabobs Circumstances will not admit of his Defraying the Charge of the Mysore

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Troops we see no other way of settling this Article than by Stipulating that when the King of Mysore shall be in Possession of the Trichenopoly Country he shall retain the Tribute due from that Country to the Arcot Subahship untill the Debt be paid.

2d. The Payment of the Nabobs whole Debt to the Company will we are afraid occasion some Difficulties as Vencatrow proposes only to pay what has been expended on Account of the Affairs of Trichinopoly indeed last year he offer'd to pay the whole but then it did not amount to above 25 Lack ; & by the Time this Treaty may be concluded it will be full 35, this is so material an Object to us that it must be insisted on & rather than break off the Treaty some Equivolent may be thought of, perhaps if the two Lack's worth of Country propos'd to be assign'd the Nabob were given up it might conciliate the Difference.

3d. The limited Term of one Year for the Surrender of the Fort we believe will be admitted Vencatrow has intimated as much to the President tho' he has not inserted it in his Memorial, if it should be very strenously objected to perhaps the agreeing to admit a Small Party of Mysoreans into the Fort may obviate the Difficulty & we think cannot be of any Prejudice.

These, Sir, are the Points that occur to us at present, others may arise but if they should not be very Essential, such we mean as may Effect the General Plan, We desire you will not wait for particular Orders but Conclude on your own Judgment, We hereby empower you to do so, & when all the Articles are fully agreed on the Treaty must be ratify'd by us under the Company's Seal, & by the Nabob, King of Mysore & King of Tanjore under their Respective Chops.

Mr. Palk is now setting out for Tanjore & is charg'd with this Letter to send it to you by the first safe Conveyance the Chief of his Instructions are to press the King of Tanjore to Join, tho he should succeed in this (which We doubt) yet we are of Opinion We have no Choice but the Accomodation with the Dallaway must take Place in Case Mr. Palk should proceed to the Army from Tanjore as he will be then able to disburthen you of a good part of the Trouble of this Negociation We have in that Case empower'd him to Act Jointly with you.

The Resignation of Captn. Dalton & the late Deaths having Occasion'd several vacancy's We have made the following Promotions.

Capt. Lieut. John Innis, Lieut. Joseph Smith } to be Captains.
Lieut. James Spears — Captn. Lieutenant.
Ensigns John North, Daniel Campbell, John Fraser } Lieutenants.
Volunt. John Clark, George Airey } Ensigns.

There remain three Vacancys for Ensign We have already advis'd you that Mr. Godwin is provided for as you desire & some time ago we acquianted you of an Ensign's Commission given to Francis Flaction.

We are always for Encouraging Merit, to brave Men publick Marks of Honour are much greater Rewards than Pecuniary Gifts, We look on Mahomed Isof in this Light from the Commendations you bestow on him & have agreed to give him a Commission as Commander in Chief of all the Companys Seapoys, this Perhaps may not be a proper Title but something equivalent to it is what We mean & should be glad you would set us right, at the same Time We propose to present him with a gold Medal. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servts. Thos. Saunders Charles Boddam Henry Powney Alexr. Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

Fort St. George.
25th March 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1754.*—— [25TH.]

To the Reverend Mr. Robert Palk.

Sir,

Circumstances of Affairs rendering it necessary that we should send a Person whom We can confide in to the Tanjorean Court We have pitch'd upon you for that purpose.

You are not Ignorant that the King of Tanjore is in Alliance with us & that his Army has Acted jointly with that of the Nabob till a Party of Morattoes enter'd his Country & plunder'd some Villages, when he drew off his Forces & has ever since by Excuses delay'd rejoining & by some 'tis reported acceded to a Neutrality, the Latter there is no Certainty of however the Incursions of the Morattoes the Threats & Promises alternately of the French it is very evident have had such Effect as to render him extreemly timid & Cautious, & to make him continue to alledge specious Pretences for his not acting in Conjunction with the Nabob, which must in Time be fatal to his Affairs & thus he remains irresolute endeavouring to keep fair with both. the Situation of Affairs requires that We be upon a Certainty in regard to his Measures for supposing his Intentions to be on the Nabob's Interest yet by such Protractions the Enemy must gain their Point.

We have therefore address'd the King on this Subject copy of which Letter is deliver'd you; acquainting him that we now send you to negociate our Affairs with him on your being admitted to an Audience you will enlarge on our having undertaken the Defence of Trichinopoly mostly on his declaring that in Case it was Lost his Country would be ruin'd; that We have continued firm in our Resolutions & have the Pleasure to see the Enemys schemes to this time disappointed that he must be sensible the preserving it depends on flinging a Sufficient Quantity of Provisions into it & with our Joint Forces attacking the Enemy now they are Weak that if he continues to delay the Consequence will be that We cannot defend it any Considerable time but must give it up & therefore We hope he will immediately send his Forces to the Nabob this you will urge to him in the strongest Terms & demand his final Resolution which you will immediately acquaint us & Major Lawrence with & we will then send you our Ultimate Orders. We are Sir Your Affectionate Friends Thos. Saunders Charles Boddam Henry Powney Alexr. Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

Fort St. George.
25th. March 1754.

P.S. With this you will Receive a Packet directed & to be forwarded by you to Major Lawrence in which is contain'd ample Instructions dated this Day for concluding a Treaty with the Dalloway in case you should proceed from Tanjore to the Army or Trichinopoly we do hereby empower you to act jointlywith the Major in the said Negociation of which We have advis'd him. We are Sir your Affectionate Friends Thos. Saunders &c. Council.

Rece'd the following General Letter from Major Lawrence. April 1.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &oa. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 9th. & hope long before this you have receiv'd mine of the 7th. & 8th. Instant with my Opinion on the State of Affairs. No. 89.

I refer you to mine of the 5th. concerning Mr. Palk; who I dont hear is yet set out. I have said enough upon that Subject to have made my Sentiments very clear. The King of Tanjore writes as our Friend; & says his Troops are ready when he sees ours from Arcot coming. It is therefore Gentlemen your great Business to urge Mauphus Cawns March, with all Speed; for every Day's Delay is of the greatest Consequence to us. I intend leaving the Party at Deve Cotah till I can hear of his

[1st.] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

approach; nigh enough for their Junction, for without they come together, they can be of no Service to me. But this I leave for your Approbation. The Detachment at Deve Cotah may be employ'd with Prudence to distress the Enemy (in the mean Time) by driving in their Cattle & Burning their Grain.

The Enemy's Army are still on the Island; but send out large Partys every Night to intercept our Provisions; that We get in with Difficulty & Danger.

A Letter of Advice from Mr. Starke informs me, that there is a Reinforcement coming to the French, of 150 Men & 200 Seapoys on whose Arrival perhaps they will come out & incamp on the Plain. How necessary then the Speedy Arrival of our whole Force: For such a Motion from the Enemy will still encrease the Scarcity of Provisions, If not cut them off quite. I am Gentlemen, your most Obedient & most Humble Servant STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Camp the
20th. March 1754.

P.S. Captn. D'illens was oblig'd to go to St. Davids for the Recovery of his Health. The Officers are arrivd from Tanjore.

2. 2. Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

No. 4. We have receiv'd your Letters of the 20th. & since the 9th. wrote you under Date 18th. 21st. & 25th. Ult.

The Reverend Mr. Robert Palk is entertain'd as a Chaplain to this Presidency so far as Regards his Function he is under our Direction but to compell him to what may be disagreeable to him in other Affairs our Authority extends not he has oblig'd us in going to Tanjore & set out the 27th.

By our former Letters you will perceive The President had Wrote Abdul Bob Cawn We would Join our Detachment with his Horse his Reply was that he was in arrears to his Troops who would not move till paid that he must Raise Money, & that the Major Part of his Force was for that Purpose gone against the Polligars; they continue there & he has wrote to borrow of us P. 50,000. We must Repeat that We think they cannot be depended on especially as you write that if they are not paid they will be of ill convenience rather than Service.

A Detachment of upwards of 100 Men went with Stores from Pondicherry, near Verdachilum they divided into three Partys one of which proceeded to Syringham this is the Advice we have received & nothing else Particular has occurr'd. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
2d. April 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

MONDAY THE 8TH.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— 8TH.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs, No. 40.

I wrote you on the 21st. No. 39 in Answer to your Favour of the 9th. Instant.

The Enemy out number us greatly in Seapoys & ours decrease every Day without being recruited. Tho' I would most willingly avoid every needless expence yet that which is necessary, if neglected makes the whole of no use. You will please then to think on means of having me recruited in that Article, & speedily. We have no spare Arms here at all, There must be some sent us, & if you think proper to send me as many stand as will Arm the Number of Additional Seapoys you chuse to give me: I can find Men enough here.

The Surgeon of the Fort Mr. Willson has represented to me; that notwithstanding his having made Indents a considerable time ago for Medicines (of which now he is in great want) he can get no Accounts that his Demands are comply'd with; I beg Gentlemen you will make this your Care; & not let us Suffer for want of such necessary things.

Please to Endeavour at an Exchange of Prisoners or we shall lose half of our Men. Propose it to Mr. Dupleix I think it the best Method at present.

The Nabob has wrote to Day very pressingly to Mauphis Cawn to joyn our Party at Deve Cotah, whom as I Acquainted you I have Order'd to Stay till his Arrival.

We buried yesterday Lieut. Heydegger his Vacancy will be fill'd up by the Swiss Gentlemen as their Agreement directs. I am Gentlemen your most Obedient & most humble Servant. Stringer Lawrence.

Camp the
23d. March 1754.

Agreed that all the Seapoys at Deve Cotah over & above three hundred, which are esteem'd sufficient for the Defence of that Settlement be order'd to Join the Major with Captain Pigou's Detachment, that the Major have leave to raise what further Number he may think the Service requires & that five hundred Stand of Buckaneer & Trading Guns be sent him by the first Opportunity.

Colonel Scott in a Letter rec'd this Day advising that he intended to proceed hither in a few Days in the Syren Sloop to relieve Major Lawrence in the Command of the Army, the Board are of Opinion that as all Vessells from Bengal at this Season of the year are oblig'd to make the Land to the Southward of this Place it is probable Col. Scott may touch at Fort St. David in which it would be saving much Time if instead of Coming hither he were to proceed immediately to Camp & it is orderd that a General Letter to him to that Effect be prepar'd accordingly, & that Major Lawrence & the Gentlemen at St. David be advis'd thereof.

The President lays before the Board the Military & Country Correspondence.

Ensign Paccard at Conjeveram writes that he is inform'd the Enemy are Assembling a large Force at Gingy but that he cannot learn their Intentions, he adds that should he be orderd to march out with Mauphooz Cawn to Trichinopoly which Abdul Bob Cawn informs him is intended, he thinks his Force insufficient.

Capt. Campbell at Chingalaput writes that four of the french Prisoners had undermined the Place of their Confinement & were making their Escape but were pursued by the Patrol who killed one, wounded another & took the other two. that Nine of the Prisoners had desired to enlist in our Service on which he desir'd Directions.

To which the President wrote him in Answer that they could by no means be admitted.

[8—] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

Mahauphooz Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn advise that they had settled Affairs with Bomerauze the Pollygar & that Mahauphooz Cawn was now ready to proceed to Trichinopoly but hearing that the Enemy had sent a Party of their Forces to oppose his March he Desires that a Detachment of Europeans & Artillery may be sent with him.

As the Major lays great Stress on the Junction of these Forces with our Detachment at Deve Cotah to reinforce the Army the Board are of Opinion that to prevent any further Delays Ensign Paccard with the Party under his Command be orderd to Accompany Mahauphooz Cawn as far as Deve Cotah & that Mr. Hopkins be directed on their Arrival there to return that Detachment to us immediately by Sea on the Dragon Sloop & that the Major be advis'd of this Disposition.

Letter from Murtas Ally Cawn at Vellour giving fresh Assurances of his Desire to live on Friendly Terms with Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn & requesting that the President will write to Mahauphooz Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn not to molest his Districts, which the President complied with the 4th. Instant.

As Major Lawrence has frequently represented the Necessity of having somebody constantly at Tanjore, the Board Judge it proper to avoid any Delays in Case Mr. Palk should be oblig'd to quit that Place either to proceed to Camp or return hither that a proper Person succeed him, & Mr. Andrew Newton at Fort St. David is now appointed for that purpose.

Two General Letters from Mr. Henry Brooke at the Negrais read as follow Vizt.

To The Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have the Honour to acquaint you that the Egmont Captn. Tolson arriv'd here the 25th. February last, being appointed by the President & Council of Fort William to relieve the Colchester Captn. Mainwaring by this Ship We have receiv'd two Hundred & fifty seven Artificers, with Sundry Stores & Provisions; this has been a great Relief to us as We by this Means are enabled to go on with the Works on the Plan which Mr. Hunter has begun with much more Expedition, which before Went on but slowly on Account of the Small number of Hands & a lingering Sickness which has raged amongst us.

I take the Liberty to send your Honours the Several Papers as ℔ List enclosed, but I have not been able to bring up the Occurrences and Transactions from the 20th. September to the Death of Mr. Hunter; but as there are no original Papers even Memorandums to be found relating thereto, which, together with my Detention by Sickness at Syrian, renders it impossible for me to give your Honours a Satisfactory Account during that Interval, & I hope I shall stand as faultless in the opinion of your Honour's for this Appearance of Neglect which now lies against me, as I shall be found blameless for not being born at the Building of Bable.

I have faithfully & simply related every minute Circumstance in the Diary relating to the Honourable Company's Affairs at this Place since the Death of Mr. Hunter; by which your Honours will be Judges of our present Situation, the Little Certainty We have of being supply'd with Provisions for some Time to come in this disburbed Country & how the Government thereof stands affected towards us. Since [*sic*]

Since the 24th. December We cut down the Woods to the South West of the Peer 250 Yards in Breadth, & in Length to the Foot of the Hill 300, We have compleated a Wall of 5 foot high & four foot broad round the Peer being Apprehensive of its sinking, some time ago, but now We think it Secure to bear the Weight of our Guns, we have rais'd embrassures all round it, we have Built 24 Butts of Stone for a Granery to stand on, & have the Timbers almost squar'd ready to be erected, we have sunk a large Well and built it with stone which now affords plenty of Exceeding good Water, & happily compleated it before the Arrival of the Bengallers, & which otherwise we would have found it impossible to have supply'd them with Water.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— [8TH.]

Mr. Hunter having wrote your Honours fully of our Wants at this Place, Duplicate whereof I have sent you ℔ the Cuddalore leaves me nothing farther to add on that Head, execept [*sic*] that We are in great Want of a few Smiths.

The Ballance of the Honble Company's Cash for last Month being 9933,, 1 ,, 38 Rupees nine Thousand nine Hundred & thirty three, one Quarter & thirty eight Rais will sufficiently demonstrate to your Hons. how soon it will be out of our Power to pay the Military & Artificers & their monthly Wages unless your Honours will please to supply us immediately with Cash.

The Gentlemen of the Military & Docter having represented to us that Benjamin Billock, & Thomas Welsh both Centinels, have been for some Time past render'd incapable of Duty by sickness we have taken the Liberty to transmitt them to your Honours; We have also sent by this Conveyance Seignor Antonio. Linguister & Seignor Martino both Prisoners, for Stealing & embesseling the Hoñble Company's Arrack this Last being employ'd in the Storehouse found means to Convey it to the Former's House, where it was found & the fact being prov'd against them both, we have sent them to your Honours to receive a Punishment proportionable to their Crimes.

The President & Council of Fort William having acquainted us that they intend relieving the Egmont provided We think the attendance of an Europe Ship necessary we have therefore Acquainted them, that as the Affairs of our Honble Masters are yet unsettled with the Country Government, & We by no Means in a State of Defence should We be attack'd by an Enemy. We do think the attendance of a Europe Ship indispensably necessary at this Place till these Affairs are adjusted, you will be pleas'd therefore to Acquaint the Gentlemen of Fort William with what Military & other Stores you will send to this Establishment, that they may proportion those they send here accordingly; but whatever Military Force you will please to send us we cannot be able effectually to Establish our selves on the Plan which Mr. Hunter has laid down before the next dry Monsoons.

The Several Indents for Stores & Medicines I hope your Honours will please to comply with. I am Honble Sir & Sirs your Most Obedi ent humble Servant

Negrais
6th. March 1754. HENRY BROOKE.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

I have now the Honour to advise you, that the Porto Bello Sloop arriv'd here a few Hours after I had made up the Packet ℔ the Colchester, & had sent Captn. Mainwaring his Sailing Orders to proceed to Fort St. George Presidency; but on reading your Honours Letter to Mr. Hunter, wherein you desire the Ship Colchester immediately to proceed to Bengal on her being reliev'd by a Ship from thence. I wrote to recall the sailing Orders, & now transmit you the Several Papers by which I was prevaild on to suffer those Sailing Orders to continue, & must now entirely Submit myself to your Clemency, either to stand condemned or be acquitted for my Conduct.

By the Porto Bello We have received the sundry Papers as ℔ List of the Packet, some Provisions & 28 Military these last will greatly conduce to the well being of this new Establishment, & I hope by this Reinforcement of healthy Europeans We shall be able to make a stout Resistance should We be attack'd by a Country Enemy.

The several Directions which you have pleased to lay down for Mr. Hunters Conduct shall be punctually observ'd, till the Arrival of the Cuddalore which We now hourly expect with your more particular Instructions for our Conduct. I am Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Negrais.
8th. March 1754. HENY. BROOKE.

[8TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

The following Letter from Mr. Westgarth is also read.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

This waits on you by Senhor Nicouse, & Toppelo, the King of Pegue's Ambassadors which latter is sent as a Spy on the Actions of the Former, but by what I can learn neither of them have Sufficient Powers to treat with you, any farther than what is Verbal from the King & Rajah their Masters, here is nothing material happen'd since my last to you by the Sloop Fortune and Ship Eagle, I remain with great Respect Honble Sir & Sirs your most Obedient humble Servant.

Syrian Robt. Westgarth.
22 Febry 1754.

The President Acquaints the Board that Coja Nicoose and Toppelo the Person mention'd in Mr. Westgarths Letter had been with him & communicated what they were Commission'd by the King of Pegue to offer in Regard to the Island of Negrais & a Treaty with the Company the Substance of which is that the King is willing to grant that Island to the English in Consideration of an Annual Present the value of which is not mention'd & that he is willing also to Grant a free Trade to the Company in the Ports of Syrian Persaim Mortavan, Pron, Pegue, Tangoore, Don Bassey but not to private Merchants and that he will agree to protect & Defend the Company against his own Subjects but not Foreigners.

In regard to the Annual Present which the King of Pegue demands the Board are of Opinion that if he will be satisfied with a silver or gold Flower as an Acknowledgement it would be advisable to comply with it: but as it is more probable something of value is expected, that this Article will be objected to, & that a free Trade for all the Subjects of the King of England to the said Ports be insisted on.

Letter from Mr. Dupleix dated 31 March No. 5 & one from Madame Dupleix dated 1 April No. 6. both to the President are now read as enter'd in the french Correspondence.

Thos. Saunders.
Chas. Boddam.
Henry Powney.
Ar. Wynch.
John Smith.
Chs. Bourchier.

8. The following General Letter sent to Major Lawrence agreeable to Resolution of Consultation this Day.

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr. Commander in Chief
of all the Companys Forces in India.

Sir,

No. 6. Our last was dated the 2d. Instant we have since receiv'd your Letter of the 23d. March No. 40.

As you acquaint us you are in want of Seapoys to replace those whom you have lost We very readily Consent to your raising what Number you may think necessary for the Service, We think three hundred Seapoys are Sufficient for the Protection of Deve Cotah & its Districts there are now in that Garrison about 800 We shall therefore order all above the 300 to Join Captain Pigou's Party to reinforce you and by the first opportunity We shall send you about five hundred Stand of Buckaneer & trading Guns, besides these We have but a very few left but We hope shortly to receive a Supply from Europe.

———*FORT S^t. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——— [8TH.]

M^r. Wilson's Indent for Medicines has been fully comply'd with some time ago.

An Exchange of Prisoners has already been proposed before the Receipt of your Letter to M^r. Dupleix through the Means of Captain Schaub, his Answer was that he would see what could be done We are of your Opinion that it would be a Right Measure for us at present & We shall use our Endeavours to bring it about if We were to seem anxious in this Affair it might be a sufficient Reason with M^r. Dupleix not to acquiesce We shall Shortly have Occasion to write to him & that may be a proper opportunity to offer some Proposal.

After repeated Letters wrote in the most pressing & even more than pressing Terms Mahauphooz Cawn has at last consented to march on Condition that a Party of Europeans be sent with him as he thinks it too hazardous to cross the Country without that Support. so many Evasions have been made use of to avoid this march that we can scarcely think him sincere even now, however that he may have no Excuse we have order'd Ensign Paccard with his Detachment (who are now with Abdul Bob Cawn at Conjeveram) to attend Mahauphooz Cawn to Deve Cotah, & We have directed M^r. Hopkins on their Arrival there to return our Party to us immediately by Sea as We are too bare of Military to spare them from these Parts.

We have entertain'd Messrs. Bryan Scottney and Simon Hart as Voluntiers the former has acted to general Satisfaction as Serjeant Major at Fort S^t. David, & the latter in the same Station at Calcutta & is reccommended by the President there besides these two or three other Gentlemen we hear are arriv'd in Vessells which have put in at Nagore from Bengal to engage in the same Quality, as soon as We have their Names We shall advise you.

Col^l. Scott in a Letter receiv'd this Morning dated 9th. March acquaints us that in Consequence of our Request he intended to proceed hither as soon as a Sloop could be got ready which might then be in Eight or ten Days, to relieve you in the Command so that We may be in dayly expectation of his Arrival which will give us great pleasure as we have long wish'd to have it in our Power to give you some Respite from a very fatigueing Campaigne. As it is probable the Sloop may touch at S^t. David We have sent a Letter thither for the Col^l. to request he will proceed from thence to Camp without coming hither which would retard his Joining the Army for a considerable Time.

We have directed M^r. Hopkins to take all opportunitys of advising Mahauphooz Cawn of any Motions the Enemy may make to oppose his March & Ensign Paccard has Orders to acquaint you & M^r. Hopkins from time to time of his Rout by this Means to put it the more in your Power to facilitate the Junction. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants, THOMAS SAUNDERS, CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEX^R. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHA^s. BOURCHIER.

Fort S^t. George.
8th. April 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOVERN^R. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEX^R. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

TUESDAY THE 16TH.

Colonel Caroline Frederick Scott who arriv'd here yesterday from Bengal in the Honble Companys Sloop Syren being indispos'd and not attending Consultation. It is agreed that the Colonel be desired to proceed to Camp as soon as Convenient to relieve Major Lawrence in the Command of the Army & that the Syren Sloop be detain'd here to carry him to Fort S^t. David or Deve Cotah.

[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

The President acquaints the Board that he had convers'd further with the King of Pegue's Agents who seem'd to think the King's View in demanding an Annual Present for the Negrais was not so much on Account of the Value as the Acknowledgement to be Signify'd by it that we possess the Negrais by Virtue of his Grant. The President then acquainted them that the Negrais being chiefly Intended as a Harbour for Shipping but not very Conveniently situated for Trade the Company were desirous of having some Place that would Answer that Intent better, & as Persaim was represented to be proper for the Purpose if the King wou'd grant it to the Company with a sufficient Tract of Land round about for the Convenience & support of the Inhabitants it might be a great Means of encouraging a Trade that would probably prove very Beneficial both to the King & Company to which they replied that if this Place were granted to the Company it might greatly prejudice the King in his Revenues by drawing thither the Trade which is now carried to Syrian & which pays a considerable Custom, they added that if the Company could Assist the King at present with a Party of Men & Artillery they did not doubt but such a Testimony of Friendship & the Advantages the King might reap from it would be a great Inducement for complying with this Request & they even did not in the least Doubt but it would be granted, to which the President Reply'd that he would very readily assist the King if the Company's Affairs could admit of it & as a Proof of these friendly intentions if the Ships this Season from Europe should bring the Reinforcements We have Reason to expect, a Detachment shall be sent over for the King's Service, with which they seem Satisfy'd.

Order'd that the Draught of a Treaty with the King of Pegue agreeable to the Minutes of the last & this Consultation be prepar'd to be laid before the King's Agents.

The President lays before the Board the Country & Military Correspondence.

Ensign Paccard writes that Mauhaphez [*sic*] Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn were gone to Arcot to settle with their Troops who refus'd to march to Join the Nabob untill their Arrears are discharg'd he also advises that he is inform'd by a Hircarra that four Thousand Horse two Thousand Seapoys & three hundred Europeans with four Pieces of Cannon were detach'd from Syringham & took 3 different Routes with an Intent (as 'tis supposed) to oppose Mauphoos Cawn's March.

Serjeant Belton who Commands at Tripasore & had Orders to receive of the Killedar a Lack of Rupees which Abdul Bob Cawn had assign'd the Payment of on that District writes that the Killedar promises to pay ten thousand seven hundred Pagodas in June & fifteen Thousand three Hundred Pagodas in August.

Nabob Anaverde Cawn writes that one Mahomed Abdulla Muftey of Arcot who has long possess'd ten Cawny's of Ground at St. Thomé as an Enam or free Gift which he planted with Beetle has inform'd him that the said Ground is now taken from him.

As this & several other Enams are Excepted in the Phirmaund for St. Thomé Order'd that the Renter restore the same.

A Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn complaining of Capt. Campbell at Changleput for seizing all the Paddy in that District & Carangoly out of which his Troops were to have been paid.

As there is an absolute Necessity that the Garrisons should be well stor'd with Provisions which the Nabob's People have neglected tho' frequently press'd & told of the Necessity of guarding against a Siege, the Board are of Opinion no Notice should be taken of this Complaint but that Captain Campbell proceed in collecting all the Paddy he can get.

Murtaz Ally Cawn writes that Abdul Bob Cawn has seized upon certain Districts belonging to his Jagueer & as he is resolv'd to maintain a strict Friendship with Anaverde Cawn he desires the President to write to Abdul Bob Cawn to restore those Districts & leave them unmolested which the President has already complied with.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— [16TH.]

A Letter from Captn. Donald Campbell at Fort St. David desiring leave to come up to the Presidency, which the Board do not think proper to comply with but that he proceed to Camp with Coll. Scott.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

MONDAY THE 22ND.

THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENY. POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President acquaints the Board that he had discoursed with Coll. Scott about proceeding to [Camp] but that he seem'd averse to it and intimated that he came here from Bengal thinking the Major's Illness render'd him incapable of the Command but as he finds that is not the Case he rather chuses to decline it, that he does not apprehend himself to be under our Orders in that respect but left to his own Discretion.

The Company's Orders relating to Colonel Scott being thereupon referred to it appears by the Fourth Paragraph of his Instructions that he is left to his Discretion to repair to any of the Company's Settlements *in case they should be threatened with an attack* and is then to be admitted into Council when any Military Proceedings are considered of and in the 47th. Paragraph of the General Letter dated 15 December 1752. it is said *in Case any Accident should happen to Major Lawrence Coll. Scott is to have the Command.*

As Major Lawrence is not by any Accident actually at present incapable of the Command; tho' from his Age, long fatigues & frequent Returns of Illness there is great Reason to apprehend it will not be long in his Power to Remain in the Field, & as the Sense of the above recited Paragraph seems to be that the Coll. even in case of a real Accident to the Major is rather left at his Liberty to take the Command than oblig'd to do it, the Board are of Opinion that the Coll. is not Subject to their Orders & that the most they can do is to represent the dangerous Consequences to the Company's Affairs should the Major be oblig'd to quit the Field, & how material a Service the Coll. may render the Company by taking the Command & thereby giving Major Lawrence some Respite which may enable him to resume it;

The Secretary acquaints the Board that having by the Presidents Direction sent a Letter from Major Lawrence & other Papers to Coll. Scott for his Perusal the Coll. return'd them with the following Answer Viz.

Saturday 20 April.

Sir,

I am much oblig'd to the Governour for ordering these Papers for my Perusal but as I do not deem Myself a Member of the Council I must desire to be excus'd from medling with the Papers or presuming to sign any Letters of the Honble Governour & Council

I am &c

CAR. FRED: SCOTT.

[22ND.] ——*FORT ST GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

No. 41: The following General Letters from Major Lawrence are read Viz ·

To The Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr·
President & Govr· &cA· Council of Fort St· George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd both your Favours No. 1 & 2 in Answer to all my Letters from the 25 February to the 8th· of March. It is very proper my Opinion should be ask'd as one of the Council. But it would be mighty odd. If I could imagine that only my opinion was to be followed; No Gentlemen, you cannot think me so Weak, or so unreasonable. But since I cannot have the Honour to assist at those Councils, & to hear the respective Reasons given for or against anything I may have propos'd; or to know the final Determination of the Majority Is it not reasonable to expect that in general I might be inform'd of the Reasons for such Resolutions; If it were only for Instruction sake it would be right: But for a more Important Reason, which I have often given that by knowing the result of those Debates I might be so Instructed in the State of Affairs & that by my perfect knowledge of them I might be enabled to act in Conjunction with your resolves. for however determin'd I have been not to blend the Military & Political Business, I find they are so Intricately mix'd together that it is unavoidable. Therefore all the Lights necessary should be given to assist me. I am sorry to take up so much of your Time & my own with these (as it were) preliminary discourses. But as I was willing Gentlemen to make my meaning as clear as possible, To show you the Necessity I think of your being more full & Explicit, In your Orders & Instructions to me, According to the Result of your Councils I should have been sorry you might have imagin'd my Remonstrances the Effects of Dissatisfaction at thinking I was neglected. Private Picque I scorn. because I always speak my Mind, & I hope I have a Spirit above Ill usage: & besides when the publick is concern'd every thing gives way with me to that more Important concern: let me beg you will take this Gentlemen as it is meant let the same Spirit Actuate us, & if you please let us drop this Subject for good let our Time be employ'd in making our Actions Unanimously prove how much we have the good & Honour of our Masters at Heart, & with how much Zeal & Disinterestedness we are willing to serve them If the Officers have given a wrong Parole or one that is not approv'd of, it should be recall'd; & the Gentlemen return of themselves Prisoners. They sign'd it themselves & I sent it to you for your Opinion to be sure if Salabajungs Legality is not [*sic*] disputed by us, they ought to give their Parole to the King of Mysore he is at War as you say against the Circar whom We defend. As to the Objection of not serving against his Lieutt· I think cannot make any thing in favour of Mr· Dupleix. We cannot suppose him as such as We have all along denied it, so he is not acknowledg'd by us, as a Lieutenant of Salabajungs untill he gives such Proofs as will make us no longer dispute his Legality. I am very much afraid our Junction will be greatly retarded, for I do not think they will get more Money than will Just maintain them where they are much less a Sum necessary to support them here Mr. Palk on his Arrival at Tanjore will find the King with the old (but reasonable) Excuse that on the March of the Northern Forces he will Join his Troops. If they Come, & he is as Good as his Word something may be done; but if not you are come to a final Resolution but are afraid as soon as the King sees we are resolv'd, that he will endeavour to make terms for himself. I believe he will, & perhaps such that to get the best conditions for himself as will make him come into their Measures. & refuse us marching thro' his Country; & Compell us to do by Force what we want to gain by Treaty. To prevent which consider would it not be proper when we find We must come to that Extremity, to order us to march & then make the Proposal; for should he take such a Step not only the Fort but We must fall. We will leave the Place Garrison'd sufficient against an Attack & while Provisions last, we may be treating better at the worse lose them in the Fort than the whole by staying I hear no more of Salabajings approach but some of Ballazerow's are absolutely in the Mysore Country. to which they have sent a Detachment their Numbers are not decreas'd by it, for the Day it was made they were reinforc'd by a

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— [22ND.]

Party of Morattas. I can see one inconvenience in letting the French pay our Prisoners, which is their Desertion they have that advantage of us they will entertain our People & we will not theirs. besides they send them to the N°. ward, where they are of great use, & must be faithfull thro' Necessity. not having means for their Escape. I am sorry to acquaint you that by the last Advices the Nabob had Sydoo lascar Cawn was remov'd from Salabajungs Councils. I am Gentlemen your most humble Servant.

Camp the
3rd. April 1754. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq^R. President
& Governour &c^A. Council of Fort St. George.

No. 42.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

My last was of the 3d Instant, In answer to your Favours of the 18th. & 21st. March. There are now two Vacancys, by the Resignation of Captn. Dalton, & Death of Captn. Grant, you cannot but be sensible how much Officers are necessary, & wanted I desire you will be pleas'd to let them Coñpys be filled as soon as Possible, & the other Officers in their Respective Ranks, there are two Voluntiers for the Ensigns Commissions. Captn. Polier has apply'd to me on Account of his Officer Prisoner at Syringham representing the Expence he is at, & desiring a Continuance of his Batta. I have order'd it for this Month & shall wait your Orders to continue it, or not, as also to Captn. Greenville. The Difficultys I have represented to you in all my preceding Letters still Continue nor can they be removed nor We change our Situation till Mr. Palks Arrival at Tanjore I flatter'd myself to have heard of his being there before now. I am Gentlemen, your most Obedient humble Servant.

Camp the
7th. of April 1754. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

The Major being of the same Sentiments with the Board in Relation to the Parole * given by the English Officers who were Prisoners at Serringham Agreed that M^r. Dupleix be wrote to, that We Disapprove it & that if their Parole to the Mysore King will not be accepted they shall return to Serringham.

* *Vide* Major's Letter entd. in Extra: Occurrs: the 4th. March.

The Question propos'd by the Major being Debated whether it were better for the Army to march towards Tanjour before the Proposals are made to the Dalloway, by that means to keep the King of Tanjore from entering into any Measures that might break our Scheme; or continue under the Walls of Trichinopoly. The Board are of Opinion that the Army should move towards Tanjour if the Major should think it may be done without giving the Enemy such an Advantage of Ground as might put it in their Power to invest the Town & prevent the return of our Army to its Relief, but if the March of our Forces should leave it in the Enemy's Power to take this Advantage, in that Case the Board are of Opinion our Army should not move, but make the Proposals to the Dalloway from their present encampment & should those Proposals be rejected & even the worst happen that the Major Suggests, it is not unreasonable to imagine that the Recruits shortly expected from Europe may put it in our Power to secure a Retreat to Deve Cotah.

Agreed that the following Military Promotions be made to supply the Vacancys occasion'd by the Death of Captain Crompton at Vizagapatam Viz^t.

Captain Lieut^t.	James Spears to be made a Captain.	
Lieutenant	John Harrison	Captain Lieutenant
Ensign	Andrew Graig	Lieutenant.
Voluntiers	Simon Hart Bryan Scottney.	} Ensigns.

[22ND.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

Order'd that Ensign Simon Hart proceed to Vizagapatam with Captain Gardner, that Lieutenant John Fraser now at Deve Cotah accompany Captain Pigou's Party to Camp & that Ensign Bryan Scottney supply the Place of Lieutenant Fraser at Deve Cotah.

General Letter from Mr. Robert Westgarth at Syrian read as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &ca. Council of
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Since my last Advices nothing material has happen'd here, only since the Rajah left this Place with his Army, the King with his younger Brother Ponca Della are finishing their Fortifications at Pegu & its reported here the King of Tavoy is Pillaging the Towns on the Coast of Mergui, The King of Ava still remains in Confinement, & his Pegu Majesty gives him little or no Sustenance.

I have receiv'd no Advices from the Coast since April last, & the Neptune Snows not yet arriving, lays me under the utmost Necessity for want of Money to carry on the Honble Companys Service here, their Sloop on the Stocks now stands still for want of it, & I can have no Supplys from the Negrais of any kind though most of my wants are chiefly for the Service of that Island.

Enclos'd I send you my Account for last Month & Remain with great Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servt.

Syrian
15th. March 1754 Robert Westgarth.

P.S. The Rajah when here desir'd I would lend him the three European Soldiers I had, to be his Body Guard, which I granted him.

In Mr. Westgarths Account of Disbursements for the Month of February receiv'd with the foregoing Letter he charges for his House Expences & Servants Wages no less than three Hundred & Fifty Nine Ticals, a most unreasonable Sum & what the Board will by no means allow but as Mr. Westgarth is order'd to come hither & there is a Ballance due from the Company to him the adjusting of these Accounts is deferred untill his Arrival.

The President lays before the Board the Camp & Country Correspondence &ca.

Letter from Mr. Willson Surgeon at Trichenopoly representing that at the Time the Nabob left off maintaining the French Prisoners he had a great many of them Sick & wounded under his Care who had not the means of supplying themselves with necessarys & their Officers would not interfere in it nevertheless relying on Mr. Dupleix's Honour he continu'd to supply them as before but on Application to Mr Dupleix he refuses to reimburse the Charge he has been at, he therefore submits his Case to the Board & Requests to be repaid what he has expended on this Account amounting to fifteen Hundred & Ninety Seven Rupees.

As Mr. Willson could have no other View than Compassion in supplying those unhappy Prisoners it would be hard he should suffer Agreed therefore that the Major be advis'd that if Mr. Dupleix will not pay those Disbursements the Nabob should & if he is unable the Company will advance it & charge it to his Account.

Letters from Captn. Kilpatrick at Trichenopoly & Mr. Mannsell at Camp enclosing their Accounts for March.

Letter from Captain Campbell at Chingalaput advising that a Party of the Enemy from Alamparvey had plunder'd some Villages between that Place & Sadrass.

Letter from Lieutenant Preston at Arcot advising that Abdul Bob Cawn refuses to give the least Assistance for the Benefit of that Garrison which in Several Places

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— [22nd]

is in great Want of Repair & even refuses a little Chunam for finishing a Battery he also refuses to pay the usual Picket Money to the Train at Covrepauk.

The President is desired to write to the Nabob & Abdul Bob Cawn that all due Assistance may be given for the Advantage of the Forts.

Ensign Paccard writes that he had Join'd Abdul Bob Cawn & Mauphoos Cawn at Arcot but when he press'd them to march they still pleaded the want of Money & desir'd he would write to the President to prevail on the Merchants at Madrass to lend them three Lacks of Rupees on Security to pay that Sum in three Months without which Assistance they cannot pretend to move.

The Merchants here being unwilling to advance any Money on so precarious a Security Agreed that the Major be advised of the improbability of those Troops marching to Join the Nabob.

Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn enclosing a Note or Bond of Wally Mahomed Cawn Amuldar of Trepasore for the Payment of a Lack of Rupees payable in five Kists the last Payment to be made in September.

The said Note or Bond is now deliver'd to the Commissary to be sent to the Serjeant commanding at Trepassore with Directions to receive the Amount at the respective Times of Payment.

Letter from Nabob Anaverde Cawn enclosing one from his Vackeels at Salabad Jing's Camp advising that Ballazerow's Minister had propos'd to Shanavass Cawn Salabad Jing's Duan to settle Affairs in this Province by giving him (Anaverde Cawn) Trichenopoly & that Shanavas Cawn replied the French were willing but that the English would not Consent.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

Letter from the President to Mr. Dupleix agreeable to Resolution of last Consultation No: [*Lacuna in the original*] and one to Madam Dupleix No: [*Lacuna in the original*] both Dated this Day as entered in the French Correspondence. 26.

AT A CONSULTATION MONDAY THE 29TH:

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

CAROLINE FREDERICK SCOTT ESQR. is now admitted to a Seat at the Board.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT &
GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs, No. 43

I have receiv'd your two Letters of the 2d. and 8 Instant No. 4 & 5; But that of the 25th. Ultimo No. 3 is not yet come to hand since mine of the 23d. of March which you acknowledge the Receipt of I have wrote two more No. 41 and 42 of the 3d. and 7th. Instant which I hope 'ere this are Received.

[20TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

Our Situation seems much to improve and if Mauphoos Cawn joins us & the King of Tanjore enters heartily in our Cause. We have room to flatter ourselves with the Hopes of Success.

I am glad to hear of Mr Palk's Arrival the Hopes of Colonel Scott coming gives me a great deal of Satisfaction for I want Rest as much as you are willing to procure it to me.

Every thing here Remains as before. the Enemy yesterday had a large Magazine blown up which has done a good deal of Damage. We hear above two Thousand People have perish'd by it. those mostly Merchants, & buzar People as the Accident happen'd near that Place. In my next I shall be able to send you a more particular Account I am Gentlemen your most Obedient & most Humble Servt.

Camp the
20th. April 1754. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

The President then acquainted Coll. Scott of the frequent Returns of illness the Major has had, & his Repeated Letters acquainting us of his Apprehensions that it will not be long in his Power to continue in the Field, laid before him the Precarious Situation of Affairs at Camp & the bad Consequences that might ensue should the Major be oblig'd to resign the Command as We have no Officer equally capable to Succeed him in so weighty a Charge at this Crisis. To which the Coll. replyed that he does not think himself oblig'd by the Company's Instructions to him to take the Command even if Major Lawrence were to dye that in Case any of the Company's Settlements should be threatned with an Attack he should be very ready to give his Assistance but as Affairs are now Circumstanc'd he is in Doubt whether as being one of the King's Officers he may be justified in appearing in Arms against the French, for which Reasons he declines taking the Command of the Company's Forces.

The Board then Proceeding on other Business the Coll. desired to Withdraw & took his leave.

The President lays before the Board the Country Camp &ca. Correspondence.

Letter from the Reverd. Mr. Robert Palk as follows.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Honble Sir,

Yesterday immediately after my Arrival I sollicited for an Audience & was promis'd it should be to Day, I am not very Sanguine in my Expectations of Success, for, by all I can learn, The Kings present Polities are to keep well with every Body. Presents he receives from Nandy Ross, & Presents he gives to Messengers from Pondicherry, he has sent several People to welcome me, with many Assurances of Friendship & Esteem I shall be a better Judge at my Return.

I have spent four Hours with the King & to very little Purpose. He complains of Poverty, says the Enemy is very rich & very formidable, That they have lately receiv'd a Reinforcement of 4000 Horse, I have press'd him to Join by every Argument I could think of, & shewn him that every other Scheme is full of Precipices. He confesses that he is not ignorant of his Situation, but unless a greater Force appears, than We are soon likely to have, It is my Opinion he will not Join, he promises however to consider of it. He may possibly alter his Sentiments, but I very much doubt it.

I deliver'd your Present, & a gold Snuff Box into the Bargain, bought at St. David, at the Reccommendation of Mr. Cooke, for which I paid 50 Pagodas: In Return I receiv'd an Ordinary gold Sash, which usd [*sic*] to be accompany'd with a Turban & Rose Water, but that part of the Ceremony was laid aside.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— [29th.]

The Major acquainted me the 12th. that he should be oblig'd to march for want of Provisions. As I could not, on Account of its Bulk, forward your general Letter of the 25th. March, I have told Him in a manner less liable to Accidents, what it chiefly contain'd, because our Affairs seem to me very pressing, & I fear Nandi Ross, knowing as he certainly must, the Disposition of this King, will only trifle with the Major, in order to save Money & gain Time, These are my Fears, you will forgive me for mentioning them, I wish they may be Groundless.

The Moravar & Tondaman are at War which hurts us in regard to Provisions & the Enemy have lately burnt Kirinoor & plunder'd 300 Gunnies of Paddy going to Trichinopoly, which I believe obliges the Major to march sooner than he intended.

Four Hundred Morattas pass'd Volcondah three Days ago, they gave out for Pondicherry, but I rather believe with an Intent to Join those at Chellimbrum, & look out for Mauphus Cawn.

Agreeable to your Directions I shall wait for your ultimate Orders should my going to Trichenopoly be propos'd I beg you will not think of it. I have already acquainted you with my Resolution I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir your most humble Servant.

Tanjore the
18th. April 1754. ROBT. PALK.

Letter from Mr. Thomas Mansell enclosing General Muster of all the Forces in Camp.

Captain Campbell at Chingalaput writes that the Whole Quantity of Paddy he has hitherto been able to get into the Fort does not exceed One Hundred & thirty three (133) Garce.

Ensign Paccard writes from Arcot that he has press'd the Nabob's to march which they promise to do in Eight Days if their Troops will go but that seems very improbable as they have no Money to pay the Arrears & provide proper Necessarys & they have more over receiv'd intelligence that the Enemy have posted Troops in the three Passes thro which they must inevitably go Vizt. between Trinomele & Gingee 1500 Horse 2000 Seapoys 50 Europeans & three Pieces of Cannon by Vencatam Petta 1500 Seapoys 500 Horse 1 Gun & 500 Match Locks between Deve Cotah & Chellimbrum 600 Seapoys 200 Horse 50 Europeans 1 Gun & 600 Match Locks.

The President acquaints the Board that he has not receiv'd any Itelligence [*sic*] of these Forces, whence it seems to be an invention of Abdul Bob Cawns to delay his March.

The Commissary lays before the Board a Letter from Serjeant Belton at Tripassore advising that the Amuldar having without his Knowledge sent twenty thousand Rupees for Madrass in part payment of the Bill on him, it was seiz'd by a Party of Pollygars belonging to Sybnedore.

As the Amuldar never had any Orders to send the Money hither he must be answerable for the Loss as it should have been paid there to Serjeant Belton who had Orders to send it hither with a proper Guard.

The President acquaints the Board that Śanawasachery the Tripoty Renter (who by Order of the Board has for some Months been in Confinement to compel him to settle his Accounts with the Company for the Rents of Tripoty which the Nabob has assign'd towards payment of his Debt) has at Length adjusted those Accounts by which he stands indebted to the Company the Sum of thirty five Thousand three Hundred & Eighty two Pagodas twenty Six Fanams and thirty Cash for two Kists due in September and December last for payment whereof several responsible Shroffs in this Place are Security one half thereof to be paid the twenty fifth of May & the other half the twenty fifth of June next, the Shroffs Bonds for which are now deliver'd to the Commissary to receive the amount when the same becomes due & carry it to the Credit of Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn's Account.

[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

A Letter from Nabob Anaverde Cawn enclosing two said to come from his Vackeels in Salalad Jings Camp acquainting him of a Proposals [*sic*] made by Ballazerow's Agent for settling this Province by giving Trichinopoly, Madera & Tinnavelly to the Nabob & by appointing some other Person (but not Mr. Dupleix) to the Arcot Government to which Salabad Jing and Mr Bussy consented. The Nabob himself in his Letter says he is willing to accept these Terms if We will Consent.

It has been more than once observ'd during the Course of this War that whenever any thing material has been on the Carpet the Nabob has always receiv'd or pretended to receive such Letters from Court as might either divert us from our Plan if disagreeable to him or encourage us to pursue it if it suited his Purpose. that he is averse to the delivering up of Trichenopoly to the Mysoreans is very certain & therefore the Board are inclin'd to think the above Letters said to come from his Vackeels are invented by himself to prevent our pursuing the Negociation with the Mysore Dalloway on the Plan wrote Major Lawrence in our Letter of the 25th. Ultimo. The Board are therefore of Opinion that the Major should be advis'd of what the Nabob has wrote & desir'd to Discourse with him on the Subject but by no means to be diverted from the Plan of Accomodation with the Dalloway, which, even if what the Nabob writes should be real, is more advantageous to the Company than that scheme as the whole Debt to the Company will be paid at once, but if the Accomodation with the Dalloway should not take place & We shou'd not be powerfully supported from Europe the Board are of Opinion it will be adviseable in that case to try the Nabob's Plan.

A Letter from the King of Tanjore setting forth the distress of his Country thro' the Ravages of Morarow whose Threats of re-entering it have terrified the People so much that they have deserted their Habitations ; he says that he has no Account of Salabad Jings coming into this Province but that Ballazerow is marching this way & that some of his Troops are actually ravaging the Mysore Country. he adds that he shall be very glad to see Mr. Palk whom he looks upon to be a Wise Man & will hearken to what he may say.

THO^{S}. SAUNDERS.
CHA^{S}. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^{R}. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CH^{S}. BOURCHIER.

The following general Letter to Major Lawrence sign'd and Sent.

30. To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^{R}. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

No. 6. Since We wrote you the 8th. instant We have received yours of the 3d. & 7th. & 20th.

What We mention'd in regard to the Opinions of the Members of the Board Seperate & collected was only to lay before you the Method prescrib'd for us for the management of the Company's Affairs We have & shall constantly advise you of the material should we transmit you the whole of the private Occurrences as We before advis'd it might be liable to fall into the Enemys Hands & could answer no purpose as the Subject of our Letters is an abstract of such Proceedings but if you desire it, it shall be done, 'tis our general Maxim to promote the strictest harmony & we shall always adhere to it, as We are convinc'd nothing can tend more than unanimity to the benefit of our Honble Master's Affairs.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— [30th]

Mr. Dupleix has been advis'd of our Objection to the Officer's Parole to Salabad Jing against whom they were not in Arms, that if he is not satisfied with its being given to the Mysore Dalloway by whose Troops they were taken, We shall return them.

We wrote you of Col^l. Scotts intention to proceed hither & our having lodg'd Directions should he touch at S^t. David to go to Camp he arriv'd here the 15th. Inst^t. & informs the President he has wrote you he is of Opinion that his Commission does not extend to taking the Command but upon absolute Necessity; & says that on his arrival here he finds you are well & as the Affairs in Bengal require his presence he declines the Command & thinks of returning on examining what the Company wrote us concerning him of which you have now Copy. We find he is not absolutely under our Directions but left to his own Discretion We have acquainted him with the precariousness of your Health but he persists, whatever may be done in this Affair after he has receiv'd your Letter We shall advise you of, if any Reasons you can offer will induce him to take the Command, we shall support them, but if he remains determin'd We know no other Resource but waiting the Arrival of a Major from Europe which cannot be long.

We dont find Salabad Jing has moved far from Aurungabad 'tis the general Opinion the Season is too far advanc'd for his coming & yet they say the French will if possible prevail upon him to attempt it so that this Remains uncertain We think there is a probability rather of the former. The Accounts you give us of the Morattas having enter'd the Mysore Province is not confirm'd here on the Contrary 'tis talk'd that the King of Mysore has commission'd his Vackeel to offer 40 Lack, and 10,000 Rs. ℔ Day to Ballazerow to put him in Possession of Trichinopoly.

You have been advis'd of the French having receiv'd an Order from Salabad Jing on the Circars of Rajahmundrum & Chickacull for their Produce, Vizeram Rause who had at that Time defeated the Nabob of those Provinces upon this News thought proper to accomodate Affairs with him but on the French offering him the management of those Countrys he flew off from his enagement and accepted their Proposals obliging himself to pay 19 Lack yearly; The Nabob ill treated & disgusted quitted the Province leaving his Family at Vizagapatam he wrote the President he would engage the Moratta's in his Cause, our last Advices from Vizagapatam mention'd they had enter'd the Country burnt the Rajah's Capital of Vizenagaram & Bimlipatam a Seaport where the Dutch had a Factory they had only Time to escape in their Shirts & their Loss is very considerable this will change the face of Affairs to the Northward our Investment will probably be detrimented by it and the French disappointed in their 19 Lack.

We are glad to hear M^r. Palk is arriv'd at Tanjore the King writes in the old Strain pleads Poverty introduces the Enemys Designs on his Country, the Time of Harvest & exaggerates the Enemy's Force he repeats in General Terms of punishing the Wicked but says Nothing of his Junction I hope We shall soon know his Resolution.

Ensign Paccard with a Detachment has join'd Mahauphez Cawn who promis'd to march but to our Surprise now writes that he shall want 5 Lacks to pay his People & desires the Loan of two, by this you will perceive his Measures are not greatly to be depended on.

The Nabob has inclos'd the President a Letter said to come from his Vackeel in Salabad Jing's Camp advising that an Accomodation had been purpos'd by which the Nabob should have Trichinopoly & a new Phousdar be sent to the Arcot Province that Salabad Jing had mention'd it to Mons. Bussey who acceded to it he says that this Proposal may be accepted if guaranteed by Ballazerow, that he shall act agreeable to our Advice & desires the President will write him his Sentiments.

Upon a slight review of what has pass'd and our present Situation We find that though the Losses of the Enemy have been very Considerable & their Defeat frequent, yet they still persevere & their force is encreased, the Dalloway extreemly Rich still

[30TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*——

supports the War & is able to do it. The March of Salabad Jing and Ballazerow though uncertain yet may be the First is entirely devoted to their Cause the Latter may easily be purchas'd & the French will shortly be reinforc'd by their Ships. on the Nabobs part, from the beginning he has acted very faintly, many & great have been his Successes which instead of establishing him in his Government have only prevented his Ruin his Distress is such that he can raise no Force Mahauphez Cawn whether through pretended or real want is unable to join him & the King of Tanjore esteems it his best policy to stand Neuter so that the whole Stress of Expence & Force is on the English. though our Troops have behav'd with Bravery yet impossiblitys cannot be expected nor can We support the Expence, our Men are few Compar'd to the Enemy, our Resourses greatly inferiour, the great Losses they have sustain'd seems hardly to Effect them whilst a Common Accident renders us incapable of acting on the Diffensive [*sic*] this is our present Situation & when we maturely consider the above Circumstances We have Reason to imagine it would be worse instead of better, which confirms us in the Resolution we have so long taken of promotg Peace if possible. & the sooner the better as the worse our situation the worse will be the Terms We may Expect We have wrote you fully in Regard to the Proposals with the Dalloway it is beyond Doubt evident that it is not the Interest of the King of Tanjore that Trichinopoly should be given up but the Power of the Enemy, the Distress of the Nabob, Threats & Promises of the French &ca. make him Irresolute he cannot bear the Thoughts of Delivering it & wants courage to take the Measures to prevent it & in this ravening disposition would be glad to stand Neuter. if he refuses to Join or by specious Pretences still procrastinates with the justest Reason it may be told him that if Vigourous Measures are not taken the Fort must inevitably fall into the Enemys Hands & he may be desir'd to explain himself as to the Plan he Judges necessary. The Nabob by his Letter & that said to come from his Vackeel equally shows his Inclination to preserve the Fort & proposes an alternative which would also be agreeable to the King of Tanjore but it is defective in regard to no Provision being made for the Payment of our Debt & a great ill convenience arises in that the French would have the Command of this Province but if consider'd abstractedly that Trichinopoly shall be given to the Nabob on Condition the Government of this Province be given to another & if our Jagueers are guaranteed to us & particular Districts in this Province made over to us till our Debt be discharg'd & some Country in Trichinopoly mortgag'd to the Mysoreans for theirs it might be admitted because whereas by the delivery of Trichinopoly we should only secure our Debt & draw of the Moratta & Mysore Troops & the War still continue; by this Peace would be restor'd. As you & Mr. Palk will have an Opportunity of conferring personally with the Nabob & King of Tanjore & by that means be capable of Judging We desire you will & please to acquaint us with the Result for We must remark that whenever we have attempted to bring Affairs to conclusion Something has always been contriv'd by the Nabob or King of Tanjore to prevent it, but such is our Situation that We cannot any longer be trifled with & if We are not able to oppose certainly 'twill be most prudent to make Peace whilst We can get any tollerable Terms which if any Accidents should happen we can have no Reason to Expect.

Though We have desir'd you to discourse with the Nabob on the Subject of his abovemention'd Letter we would not by any means have it interfere with or obstruct your Negociation with the Dalloway for an Accomodation on the Terms of our Letter of the 25th. Ultimo which Mr. Palk had charge of to convey to you by some safe Opportunity the Accomplishment of that Plan is what We have principally in View, & as We foresee the King of Tanjore will be averse to it & may probably throw every Obstacle in our way to prevent its Success We are of Opinion it will be best for the Army to move towards Tanjore before the Proposals are made to Dallaway if you think that this Step will not put it out of your Power, by giving the Enemy the Advantage of Ground, to return to the Succour of Trichinopoly should it be in Danger, for if by your March the Enemy should get Possession of any such Posts as might prevent your Succouring the Town the Dallaway might from hence entertain such Hopes of success as would induce him to reject all our Proposals.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1754.*—— [30th]

the Consequence of which in that Case might be more Pernicious than the worst the King of Tanjore can do for at all Events We imagine it will be in our Power to secure your Retreat by the help of the Recruits We may with Reason expect very shortly from Europe. This is a Military Operation of such a Nature as cannot so well be determin'd in the Cabinet as the Field, We therefore leave it to you to march or not as either of the above Circumstances may weigh most with you.

By a Letter just receiv'd from Ensign Paccard Mauphis Cawn promises to march in 8 Days but at the same time intimates that there are strong Partys of the Enemy to intercept them. We esteem his Resolution very Doubtfull but will take all Methods to promote it.

Before the Receipt of your Letter the Promotions were made to the Vacancy's you reccommend to be filled up as you will perceive by your Letter of the 25th. since when other Vacancys have happen'd by the Death of Captain Crompton which are supplied as follows.

Capt. Lieutt.	James Spears	promoted to a Company.
Lieutenant	John Harrison	Capt. Lieutenant.
Ensign	Andrew Graig	Lieutenant.
Voluntiers.	Bryan Scottney Simon Hart	} Ensigns.

And on the Reccommendations of Capts. Schaub & Gaupp Mr. Claud Philip Lullin is promoted to Second Lieutenant in the Company of the latter & an Ensigns Commission is given to Mr. Daniel Friochman de Basle in that of the former. There are still two Vacancys for Ensigns in the English Corps, & for one Ensign in Captn. Gaupp's Company which he has the Right of Reccommending to, & We have two Voluntiers on our List Messrs. Micheal Burk & Robert Lister lately arriv'd from Bengal.

Mr. Wilson has lately address'd us on the Subject of his Disbursements on Account of the French in the Hospital at Trichinopoly which Mr. Dupleix objects to the Payment of, We have not been call'd upon for any Extraordinary Allowance for our Prisoners at Pondicherry & as Compassion led Mr. Wilson into this Expence it would be a reproach on Humanity to let him be a Sufferer; if Mr. Dupleix absolutely refuses to pay it, the Nabob must make it good or We will for him.

Captn. Polier has wrote the President on behalf of Lieutenant Peyer Imhoff representing that the half Batta allow'd him at Syringham is insufficient & desiring that he may be allow'd whole Batta. Our Intention is to put the Swiss Officers in every Respect on the same footing as the English, Lieuten. Smith had no more than half Batta all the Time he was Prisoner at Velour.

We have appointed Captn. Gardiner to supply the Place of the late Captn. Crompton at Vizagapatam where they are in great want of Officers for which Reason We have order'd Ensign Simon Hart to proceed thither also, Lieutenant John Fraser has our Directions to accompany Captain Pigous Party to Camp & We shall give the like Order to Ensign Bryan Scottney, & remove Lieutenant Perceval from Fort St. David to Deve Cotah.

Enclos'd are Copies of Letters to the Nabob & King of Tanjore & of one from Coll. Scott to our Secry. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
30th. April 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

MONDAY THE 6TH. MAY.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
CHARLES BOURCHIER. JOHN SMITH

It is the Opinion of this Board that it is of the utmost Consequence to the Company's Affairs the Army should have an able Commander at this time more especially when Conduct & Spirit is absolutely necessary to support our Affairs at Trichinopoly which at present wear no favourable Aspect, & as Coll. Scott has declin'd to take the Command tho' the Consequences have been represented to him The Board are of Opinion that they should again be laid before him by Letter, that We may have an Opportunity of communicating his Reasons in his own Words to our Hoñble Masters & that We may be blameless for the Consequences, The following Letter is therefore accordingly sign'd & sent Vizt.

To COLONEL SCOTT.

Sir,

Our Hoñble Masters having directed that in case of any Accident to Major Lawrence you are to have the Command of all their Forces in India, induced by the frequent Advices we receiv'd of his ill state of Health & the improbability of his being able to continue in the Field We address'd the Gentlemen of Bengall & you on that Subject & had the Pleasure of receiving your respective Answers that you would in a few Days proceed to take the Command of the Army this Satisfaction was greatly increased by your safe Arrival here but has since been succeeded by an equal Concern on your declining it. it is not our Intention to dwell on the Reasons you may have for it; But by our last publick Advices the Major still continuing in an ill state of Health & a Stroke of ill Success having render'd our Situation less favourable makes us apprehend the Consequences will be highly detrimental to our Hoñble Master's Affairs should there not be an able Officer in Command which in case of an Accident to Major Lawrence must be the Case. these Circumstances consider'd, tis our Duty to request you will prevent the fatal Consequences that may ensue should Major Lawrence be oblig'd to quit the Field, by relieving him in the Command We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants.

THOMAS SAUNDERS.
CHARLES BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
ALEXR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 6th May 1754.

The President lays before the Board the Camp & Country Correspondence.

Ensign Paccard writes that he has at last prevail'd on Mauhaphooz Cawn with his Army to move from Arcot & they are three Miles from it but as his Dependance is on Abdul Bob Cawn who is to furnish him with all kinds of Necessarys & Money it is probable he may remain there a great While.

Abdul Bob Cawn also writes that Mauhaphooz Cawn began his March the 30th. Ulto. & that he is in hopes they will soon Proceed to Trichinopoly. In another Letter he writes that he had entirely accomodated Affairs with Mootas Ally Cawn who has sign'd an Agreement whereby he acknowledges Nabob Anaverde Cawn for Subahdar of the Carnateck Payan Gaut under the Jurisdiction of Golconda, a Copy of which Agreement he encloses as also Copy of a Letter of Indulgence from him to Murtas Ally Cawn confirming to him the peaceable enjoyment of all the Jagueers he possessed in the life time of old Anaverde Cawn deceas'd.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [6TH.]

Nabob Anaverde Cawn writes that he has directed Abdul Bob Cawn to send the President an Elephant & Horses together with the Necessarys of the Musick Noubet & Nagar-Men & that he has sent a Saned in the Presidents Name for 1300 Pagodas by way of Jagueer to support the Expence of the Noubet & leaves it to the President what Villages he may like to that amount either in the Triposore or Manamangalam Country.

As it will be most convenient to have this Jagueer contiguous to our Bounds it is agreed that the Engineer be directed to survey them & Report to the Board what Villages are best situated for this Purpose.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Col[l]. Scott in Answer to that sent him as enter'd in last Consultation, together with another Letter the Consideration whereof is deferr'd till next Consultation Viz[t]. 8TH.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq[r].
President &c[a]. Council of Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

The Honour of your Letter I receiv'd Yesterday with your Request for my relieving Major Lawrence in the Command of the Honourable Companys Forces in the Field, which is not in my Power to comply with, nor have I any Orders or Instructions on that head from the Hoñble Court of Directors.

They have been pleas'd to harbour a good Opinion of me which induc'd them to apply to his Majesty for his gracious Leave for me to repair to India, to Assist in their Military Works, & particularly in the Presidency of Fort William.

They have been also pleas'd to repose a very special trust in me, both in their publick Instructions & in private Orders to myself only. It is by these Instructions & Orders I have guided Myself ever since my Arrival in India, & it is by those very Instructions & Orders that I now refuse relieving Major Lawrence. To the Court of Directors, & to them only I am answerable for my Conduct, & to them I shall send a faithfull Account of this whole Affair, when I make no Doubt but they will find that my returning to Bengal, & attending there [*sic*] Interest & Service there, is more for the Real Good of the Honble Company's Affairs, than any Use I can possibly be of to them by going to Trichinopoly.

Another thing I must beg Leave to observe that while Major Lawrence Lives I have no Right or Authority whatsoever to interfere in any Military Command in any other Part of India than the Presidency of Fort William & therefore I shall not take upon me to do a Thing which I know, & from themselves too, to be contrary to the Honble Court of Directors intentions. I am Gentlemen, Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St. George
7th. May 1754.

CAR: FRED: SCOTT.
Engineer General &c. 10.

[10TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

The following Letter sent to Col^{L}. Scott.

To CAROLINE FRED^{K}: SCOTT ESQ^{R}.

Sir,

We have perus'd your two Letters of the 6th. & 7th. Instant, to the latter, We can only say We are sorry to find you so determin'd not to relieve Major Lawrence. The Particulars you reccommend to us for Redress in the former We shall duely [*sic*] consider & apply such Remedys as are in our Power. We are Sir, Your most Obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEX^{R}. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 10th. May 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

MONDAY THE 13TH: THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}. GOVERN^{R}. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Two General Letters from Major Lawrence read as follow Viz·

44. TO THE HONBLE THO^{S}. SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C^{A}. COUNCIL OF FORT S^{T}. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

M^{r}. Palk I suppose has acquainted you with the Hopes he has from his Negociation ; which agree pretty much with my Sentiments, that you have had already on the Affair : that unless Mauphus Cawn joyns us, the King of Tanjore will remain at least Neutral the Thing Speaks of itself. The King very well knows what Force we have here ; & that even join'd with the Numbers he could afford to supply us with ; the Enemy still would be much Superiour Mauphus Cawn's Delays have been Occasion'd by want of Money. he, or his Brother, (which is all the same) have applied to you for some. If he cannot supply himself elsewhere, you have nothing in my Opinion left, but to Consider whether you can satisfy his Demand, or not. without it he cannot stir, except to our Disadvantage. If you can supply him I think it your Interest. But of that you are the best Judges. If not you may as well give the Thing over. For depend on it, the King of Tanjore will never join us untill he sees the Troops in Question & as for the Fate of your Handfull of Men here, I believe it would be very precarious. During the whole Course of this War Gentlemen, I have ever thought & always said it ; that We have never pursued our Advantages, with such Vigorous Measures, as might have render'd them of Real Service. trifling Detachments sent up at Different Times, have never done us the Service they might, had We receiv'd them at once, & collected in a Body. The expence has been the same only with this sensible Difference ; That by one way it is to no Purpose but by the other we might expect to gain our Ends. & it is a Maxim, which you must know, that Nothing is well done, when there is anything left to do. could you by protracting the War tire out the Enemy, it would be acting Politically, & wisely : but that you are sensible is impossible ; For the heaviest Purse carries in that Contest. therefore your only Means was, to have Executed your Designs with Vigour Life and Spirit ; & that is still now what only is left. But if by the foregoing Expence you are too much Weakened to undertake it, make up Affairs as well as you can ; & do not increase the Debt to no Purpose by the former Methods. You have now Gentlemen my Opinion as fully as I can give it ; with my usual Sincerity, and to the best of my

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [13th.]

Judgment. The General Letter sent by Mr. Palk, I have not yet received ; waiting for a safe Conveyance. Except an Extract from that Gentleman mentioning the Preferments, and Mahomed Issouf's Reward. I shall consider of the letter, & give you an Answer soon. I thank you for confirming those Gentlemen I reccommended. The Vacancy's of Ensigns I shall wait to Reccommend as I hear some more Volunteers are coming up. Captn. Lieut. Speers, I have order'd down to St. David, to be employ'd in some of your Garrisons, down that way. That poor Gentleman cannot serve in the Field & in the Fort is not wanted, as a Captn. Commands & he cannot do Subalterns Duty. I am Gentlemen Your most obedient Humble Servant.

Tritchinopoly.
23d. April 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs. No. 45.

I have receiv'd from Mr. Palk your Letter No. 3 which contains the Proposals you have to make ; as also those made by Vencatrow, on the part of the Dolloway. There is still a wide difference between the two. where you have apprehended the greatest Objections might be made, you have pointed out means how to reconcile them by some Concessions on our Side. I have examin'd carefully your several Articles ; & the Terms offer'd by Vencatrow. I think some material ones have escaped your Notice, or perhaps they were left for me to see if I could find them out. 1st there is no mention made by the King, nor Promise of drawing off Morarow ; which in our 2d. Article We think necessary to be done 2dly. the Difficulty in the 3d Article you are in hopes to obviate by the Offer of giving up the Tribute : should the Dolloway refuse to defray the Expence of the whole. But also on our Part, the King requires our Assistance for the Recovery of the Madera &ca. Country's. will not this be the Occasion of a great deal of trouble on our Hands ! what with the French, & keeping our Words with him. We may find some Difficulty's in Executing that part of the Treaty. He also demands our Assistance even against the Mogul, or his Officers ; should he or they find Fault with our Agreement I beg to know Gentlemen if you can pretend to sign such a Treaty ! & Intend to keep to it 3dly. As to the 4th. Article ; the Difference there is to be conciliated by giving the two Lack Revenue : If the king agrees to it. 4th. In regard to the Seventh, wherein you propose to deliver the Fort in the Term of a Year. & till the said Delivery can be effected ; the English to Garrison it only. On Signing the Treaty the Nabob's Forces to evacuate the Place ; *But if the Enemy should make any Difficulty about the Time prescrib'd for the Delivery of the Fort a small Party of Mysoreans may be left in Garrison with the English.* I believe Gentlemen you will find it a Difficult matter to persuade any officer Willingly to take charge of the Fort on such Conditions. give me leave to tell you, the Proposal is absurd & impracticable. 5th. you agree in the 8th to a Proportion of the Plunder taken in Sherringham allowing it could be found, it might be hard to settle what they call a Dividend, & we a proportion but besides the Guns are almost all bursted, The Ammunition almost all Expended, & the Plunder taken ; sold. & the Money long ago divided amongst the Troops 6th. The ninth Article is very fair, & agrees well with their Modest demand of our assisting them against the Mogul or his Officers 7th. & lastly as to the 10th. concerning the King of Tanjore who I must still look on as a very necessary Person to keep well with, he is not mention'd by them ; perhaps they may have no Objections to his being included. I hope he may have none to the agreement. The Article relating to Trade is very Advantagious for the Company but having it Exclusive you know too well the Country to Expect it. It is very well promis'd however. There is a Difficulty occurs to me that in Case the King of Tanjore should not approve of these Measures, might he not be an hindrance to the Investments, arising from that Exclusive Trade which must necessarily

[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

pass thro' his Country. These Gentlemen are the Difference of the Offers on both Sides; some of which you have taken Notice of. those you have omitted are relating to Morarow. The Recovery of Madera, fighting against the Mogul, & the King of Tanjore being included in the Treaty. The three last are of Consequence & require your Consideration. As to the Part you desire me to have in this Negociation my Health will not permit me to undertake it. Could you see me Gentlemen I dare say you would not ask it of me. One of your own Body that knows the whole Affair, the Reasons given in Council for, & against the Proposals. Such a one is a proper Person. Was my Inclination ever so good, I am absolutely Incapable of it. For my Part I wait in Hopes every Day of being relieved as I hear Col^l. Scott is arriv'd to whom, & to you I wish all manner of Success. My last Letter contain'd my Sentiments on affairs often Given, but that Time for the last for I can say no more about them. This Business of Trichinopoly, (when once we had come to a Resolution not to give it up after it had been promis'd,) should not have been languidly followed, but pursued with Vigour & our whole force employ'd. I wish now it may be attended with the desir'd Effect procuring us a Peace, but I much doubt it & rather fear it may lead us into more Trouble, & Disturbance. Perhaps it may be said; how can We preserve it! not now I believe. But that it might have been done, at least a better Chance given us for it, [*sic*] is sincerely my Opinion I am Gentlemen your most obedient hum Servt.

S. LAWRENCE.

My last was wrong number'd 43 instead of 44.

Tritchinopoly
30th. April 1754.

Two Letters from M^r. Palk to the Presid^t. read as follow Viz^t.

THE HONBLE GOV^R. SAUNDERS.

Honourable Sir,

My last was under Date of the 18th. From the Conferences I have had since with the King I can draw no certain Conclusion, only Inuendo's, that his Troops are not far from Trichinopoly, that they can join at any Time on the Shortest Warning.

Without Doubt he is our Friend at the Bottom, but his Interest at present, he seems to think, is on the other Side of the Question: I have ask'd Succojee if he thinks Nothing of the Tribute due to the Subahship amounting to 49 Lack, & whether the Enemy wont Demand that & a great deal more whenever they have an Opportunity, whether he is not taking the right Method to put it in their Power, to which he Answers that He is the Nabobs Friend, I told him I never doubted it, only that he seem'd to me not to have form'd a right Judgment of his Masters Situation.

The King says nothing of Salabad Jing, tho' from other Hands I hear that the Report of his marching this Way disconcerts him not a little, that indeed is Contradicted, how truly I know not, They say the great Arrears due to his Army, & the Want of Ways & Means to satisfy their Demand obliges him to halt, much against the Will of Mon^s. Bussie.

The Nana's Troops are plundering the Mysore Country, & nothing less than a Caroure of Rupees it seems will pacifie them, after they have finish'd there, The King says they will come this way, & therefore he thinks it best to postpone every Thing till the Nana's Arrival, from whom he has great Expectations, by what he seems to Judge, the Maratta has some Thoughts of Trichinopoly.

This is the Method he takes to evade coming to the Point, he even desires that Mahauphooz Cawn may take the Route of Sumiaveram, fearing Morary will enter his Country & plunder it, but I hope to get the better of this, his Friendship or even his Neutrality, at this Time is so necessary, that he must be manag'd very gently,

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [13TH.]

for all our Provisions go from hence, a most material Article, & Nandiroz presses him Daily either to Join him, to suffer his Forces to take Post at Comberconam, (which would cut off our Communication,) or to forbid his Subjects sending any Supplies to Trichinopoly

The King is much displeas'd at some Alterations making by Mr. Hopkins, & his confirming the Havildar of Sheally, which I promis'd should be dropt. & I have taken the Liberty to write to him on the Subject, desiring him to wait for a more favourable Opportunity.

Inclos'd is a Letter just come in from the Major, who is much indispos'd. He desir'd me yesterday to transcribe your General Letter & send it in bills of Wax, a Part of it went this Morning, & the other Part shall go tomorrow. I am with Great Respect Hoñble Sir, Your most Obedient Humble Servant;

ROBT. PALK.

Tanjour
25th. April 1754.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.

Hoñble Sir,

Since the 25. I have not been able to get an Audience & by the many frivolous Excuses that are made, I foresee that the King will see me as seldom as possible. When I apply he desires me to send the Braminy, & when he goes Succojee is sick or busy, or gone to wash & cant see him; indeed nothing I fear will be done here, unless Mahauphooz paves the Way with a very large Force, & even then should the Nana or Salabad Jing continue their March, the utmost We can expect will be their remaining Neuter, They are Slipper Blades & require to be well looked after. Nandiroz is continually courting 'em, &, I have it from pretty good Hands, they had some Thoughts very lately of agreeing to his Proposals, but I hope they are of a better Way of thinking at present.

The Major is very anxious for Pigou's Party coming on; should they march before the Arrival of Mahauphooz Cawn which by his Delays, will in all Likelihood be the Case, I doubt he will find some Difficulty in joining as the People here will object to their coming this Way more strenuously, not having the same Excuse to make to the Dallaway, that it is out of their Power to hinder us. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servant.

ROBERT PALK.

Tanjour
the 28th. April 1754.

P.S. I have Letters from the Major of the 26th. no news. The King has just sent to desire I will apply to You for a repeating Gold Watch & a long Gun. I think he should do something to deserve 'em first.

The President acquaints the Board that as Major Lawrence apprehends some Difficultys may arise in the Negociation with the Dalloway on Account of Several Articles in Vencatrows Proposals some of which are not clearly express'd, & some Material Points omitted in others, to obviate these Difficulties which are only the Effect of the loose, & vague manner of Writing in the Eastern Languages he had convers'd with Vencatrow who very readily consented to have his Proposals reduced into proper Form agreeable to the European Manner with some Additions, which having been prepard accordingly is now laid before the Board & read as follows.

[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

PROPOSALS made by Vancatarow the King of Mayasore's Vackeel to the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President & Governour of Fort St. George acting as Mediator between the said King of Mayasore & Nabob Anaverdy Cawn Bahadar.

1st. The King of Mayasore proposes to draw off all his Forces & return to his own Country & not molest the Nabob on Condition that he be paid the whole Expence he has been at in paying his Army, Morarow's Troops & on account of the Nabob together with what has been paid to Tondaman, Torayore & Polligars including the Sum laid out to draw off or disband the People in Chunda's Army as also what has been paid to the French at Pondicherry & likewise the Sum laid out to entertain Forces & for Batta & Presents to be accounted from the Time the King first began to Assist the Nabob on the Receipt of his Letter to the Day of concluding this agreement, the said Sum to be paid in ready Specie or Secured by the Savacars, but the Mortgage of the Countrys will not on any Account be accepted and if this Proposal should not be accepted, in that Case, the King of Mayasore proposes the following Terms.

2d. The King of Mayasore will consent to renounce his Alliance with the French & enter into an Alliance with Nabob Anaverdy Cawn Bahadar to settle him in the Arcot Government.

3d. The King of Mayasore promises that he will draw off Morarow from the French & send him away to his Country & that he shall not Join the French & act against the Nabob.

4th. The King of Mayasore promises to defray at his own Cost & charges the Expences of his Troops that shall be employ'd in the Nabob's Service.

5th. If the King of Tanjore will accede to the Treaty, The King of Mayasore in that Case promises to enter into a Defensive Alliance with him that is to say if the King of Tanjore will guarantee unto the King of Mayasore the peaceable Possession of Trichinopoly Fort & the Country. The King of Mayasore will on his part engage to assist the King of Tanjore to the utmost of his Power in defending his Dominions against all his Enemys & will upon no Account molest his Country.

6th. The King of Mayasore promises that on delivery of the said Fort to him or his Officers, he will pay unto Nabob Anaverde Cawn Ten Lacks of Rupees & assign to him in Possession of such a District in the Mayasore Country with a Fort in the same as shall produce annually Two Lacks of Gopall Checkerams.

7th. The King of Mayasore agrees to pay the English East India Company the Debt due to them by the Nabob on Account of the Expences defrayed from the Time they began to assist in the Affairs of Trichinopoly to the Time of making this Treaty, as may appear Reasonable by an Oath or cause the same to be secured by the Savacars in Madrass to be paid on the delivery of the Fort of Trichinopoly at the Time & manner hereafter Stipulated.

8th. The King of Mayasore promises to grant to the English the Sole & Exclusive Priviledge of trading in his Country & no other Europeans whatsoever shall be permitted to partake of it.

9th. In Consideration whereof the King of Mayasore demands that the Fort of Tritchinopoly be deliver'd in his Possession within 12 Months to be reckoned from the Day this Treaty shall be concluded, he paying the usual Tribute to the Arcot Subahship from the Time of the Delivery of the Fort but in the interim if he collects any part of the Rents of Trichinopoly Country he is to pay the said Tribute in Proportion.

10th. From the Day of the conclusion of this Treaty untill the Expiration of the said twelve Months (unless all the Parties should consent to deliver up the Fort sooner) The King of Mayasore will agree that the said Fort be garrison'd by English Troops only & all the Nabob's People. Except one Killedar & Attendants shall immediately Evacuate the said Fort & the King of Mayasore requires that he shall be at Liberty to have an Officer in the said Fort in token of his right to the same.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [13TH.]

11th. All Provisions Cannon, Mortars &c^a relating to the Fort at the Expiration of the said twelve Months shall belong to the King of Mayasore, but not the Warlike Stores, Cannon, Mortars &c^a which may belong to the Field or the English.

12. The King of Mayasore demands that a due Proportion of all the Cannon & Warlike Stores &c^a taken at Syringham shall be deliver'd to him at the same Time as the Fort, but in Case all the said Cannon, Warlike Stores &c^a should not be then in being, in such case a Due Proportion of what shall be in being shall be deliver'd him & a Just Equivalent in Money for what shall have been expended.

13th. The King of Mayasore demands that the peaceable Possession of the said Fort & Country shall be guaranteed to him by the English against all Persons who shall invade or molest the same & that the English as Mediators shall not refuse the delivering of the said Fort on Pretence of Orders from Court he paying the usual Tribute.

14th. The King of Mayasore also requires that as he assists Nabob Anaverdy Cawn in settleing [*sic*] him in the Arcot Government. The English shall assist in setling the King in the peaceable Possession of Madera & Tenevelly Countrys he paying the expence of the English Troops which may be sent upon that Business together with the Cost of the Ammunition &c^a as also all other Charges as may be necessary & likewise he is to defray the Charges of the English Garrison (which may be left in the Fort) during their Stay there together with the Cost of the Ammunition &c^a as may be necessary for their use.

15th. That the King of Mayasore shall not molest Tondamon the said Tondamon paying to him as accustomary under Anaverdy Cawn Bahader & will upon no Account Demand more or molest him.

16th. This Agreement shall be sign'd Seal'd & Guaranteed by the contracting Partys & whosoever shall infringe this Treaty shall be deemed as an Enemy by the rest who agree to assist the injur'd Party in giving him a just Satisfaction The Nabob, The King of Mayasore, The King of Tanjore & the English mutually agree to yield their Assistance to each other in case of an attack by the Enemy.

Memorandum.

In regard to the 3d. Article, Venkatarow says that the Dalloway will consent so far as to send away Morarow to his Country, but if the French Endeavour afterwards to send for him from his Country to Join them, he Doubts whether the Dalloway will consent to prevent him from so doing, he is however of Opinion that if he once returns to his Country the French will not easily get him back again. In regard to the 7th. Article which mentions the Company's Debt, Venkatarow is of Opinion that the Dallaway will ask the Amount of the Companys Debt but it being explain'd to him that it is impossible to say Exactly how much it is as the Disbursements & Charges at Fort St. David, Deve Cotah & Camp for a considerable Time past have not been brought to Account here he then desir'd it might be guessed at within two or three Lack more or less upon which he was told it might amount to between 30 & 35 Lack, which he said he believ'd the Dalloway would consent to pay. In regard to the Months Venkatarow says that the Dalloway will desire a shorter Term but being told this was the very Basis of the Treaty & could not be dispensed with & that the Dalloway might look on the Promise of the English to deliver it then as most Sacred, he said he did not doubt but he could prevail on the Dalloway to consent to it.

Agreed that a Copy of the foregoing Proposals be sent to Major Lawrence & that he be desired to communicate the same to the Dalloway as soon as Possible, as it is of great Consequence that this Affair should not remain in suspence & thereby prevent the pursuit of some other Plan but be brought to a Conclusion or dropt without Delay.

As much depends at this Time on the Friendship of the King of Tanjore & the Assistance of his Horse, The Board are of Opinion that no means should be omitted that may procure it; Persuasions and Promises have hitherto been try'd in vain, the

[13TH.]

——FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.——

pretended fear of Morarows cruel Devastations is urged as a Reason that prevails above all, there yet remains one powerfull Argument which has been found of great Weight in most Courts in the World & of particular efficacy in the Eastern Countrys; irressistable Gold! The King is entirely led by Succojee Naigue, who is too wise not to know that his Masters Interest is inseperable from ours; it is possible the fear of Morarow may have some share in determining the late Measures of that Court, but it is probable too that the Mysore Treasure properly apply'd may have more to a Minister so fix'd & biass'd, self evident Truths appear dark & his understanding is to be enlighten'd by no other Arts so effectually as those which clouded it, The Board are therefore of Opinion that a Moderate Sum would be well placed to obtain his Interest & the Junction of the Tanjore Horse, and it is agreed that Mr. Palk be impower'd if he thinks it may be of Service to make Succojee Naigue a handsome Present to engage him in our Measures.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence & Letters from the Officers in Garrison & on Detachmt. the former contain nothing material.

Captain Charles Campbell at Chingalaput writes that 600 of the Enemys Seapoys with five hundred match Lock Fellows & two hundred Moratta Horse had block'd up Utrimalore Fort or Pagoda but upon the approach of a Party of the Nabob's Seapoys they plunder'd the Pettah & retreated toward Wandewash which is their Rendezvous.

Ensign Paccard advises the same as Captn. Campbell, with regard to the Nabob Mahauphooz & Abdul Bob Cawn he says their Behaviour & the Opinion of others give him good Grounds to think they are not so much in their Brothers Interest, they are continually raising fresh Difficultys, Abdul Bob Cawn now pretends that it is impossible for him to supply Mahauphooz Cawn with any Money as he says We have receiv'd all his Revenues,* By a subsequent Letter he writes that Mahauphooz Cawn to induce his People to follow him propos'd to march as if he were going to collect the Revenues of the Pollygars & take his Rout towards Velour, Satagore, Changam, Trinomely, Theagore from whence by forc'd marches he may in a Day or two reach Deve Cotah, on which he desires Directions whether to proceed or not.

* what he hints at is the Order given to the Officers at Arcot & Chingalaput to collect in a sufficient Quantity of Paddy for Store of these Forts.

The Board are of Opinion that Ensign Paccard & his Party should by all means accompany Mahauphooz Cawn that no opportunity may be lost of drawing him towards Trichinopoly.

The President acquaints the Board that Vencatrow the Mysore Vackeel has represented that he is reduc'd to great Necessity by his Residence here as his Master during his Stay here refuses to supply him with any Thing, he therefore desires to be advanc'd five Hundred Pagodas more which if his Proposals should take place the Dalloway he says will discharge as well as the Six Hundred Pagodas already advanc'd him.

Agreed that Five Hundred Pagodas more be lent him, on his Note & charg'd to the Account of Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn, & that Vencatrow be permitted to depart upon his Promise to use his Endeavours to bring about the Treaty.

Mr. Alexander Wynch Commissary Reports that he has receiv'd Ten Thousand Rupees of the Tripossore Money, which Sum is continued in his Hands to defray the Charges of the Troops abroad & is to be carried to the Credit [*sic*] Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [4TH.]

Receiv'd the following Letter from Mr. Palk. 14

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.

Honble Sir,

The King promis'd to see me Yesterday & to Day but as often as he Promises Excuses follow & I can get no Admittance His Fac-totum Succojee, stops up every Avenue & fights hard against us, indeed he is the only Man in the Opposition, but his Advice is almost implicitly follow'd, tho' I am still in great Hopes that the Arrival of Mahauphus Cawn may alter his Measures, should this Gentleman march a little faster & make a handsome Appearance to induce the Tanjoreens to Join, We shall at least oblige the Dolloway to Quit his Ground, as he certainly is going to incamp on the Trichinopoly Side of the River 5 or 6 Miles West of the Fort.

The Marattas enter'd this Country yesterday & after burning & plundering several Villages in the Neighbourhood, They walk'd off very peaceably with their Booty: I sent the King Word immediately that our Party at Achaveram was Ready to assist Him whenever he pleas'd. but have receiv'd no Answer.

The Nana we hear has settled with the Nabob of Currapah & is now paying a Visit to Condanore. It is also said that he has desired Nandiroz to decamp, as Syringham, Verdachilum, the Tripoty & Conjeveram Countries belong to him.

The Major has discover'd a most intricate Piece of Villany in his Interpreter Poniapah, it was at his Desire that Nandiroz sent for him sometime ago, when he assur'd the King that you had wrote 5 or 6 Months before, that the Fort was to be deliver'd up on his paying our Expences, & that it would be done in 40 Days at farthest: Poniapah has since carried on a Correspondence, pointing out the Methods how to hasten the Delivery, by cutting off the Provisions which were generally escorted by the Nellour Subadar with small Parties or to Drop a Letter properly, importing that this Subadar was to give up the Fort by Treachery, which would ruin him; the Letter was wrote & deliver'd & the poor Subadar had like to have suffer'd had not a Braminy discover'd the whole Transaction, which the Major I hear is now preparing to send you.

I have received from Mr. Dupré the Bills for 10,000 Pagodas & got them accepted. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant

Tanjour the
6th. May 1754. Robt. Palk.

Received the following Letter from Mr. Palk 16.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.

Honble Sir,

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 28th: inclosing a General Letter of the 30th. to the Major which was forwarded immediately, that to the King shall be deliverd in the Morning when I shall also desire an Explanation of Ramrow's Letter to you relating to Madame Dupleix, These People assert & retract just as it serves their Purposes & to do them Justice they have as little Regard to Truth & plain Dealing as any of their Neighbours.

I have had the Honour to pass a great Part of this Day with his Majesty, when he gave me Reason to believe that the Moment Mahauphooz Cawn appears, He will Join with his whole Force, He even Hints that should the Enemy move over the River, he may possibly do it immediately, which three or four Days are to determine, the Marattas plunder his Country daily, & insist on his taking an Oath to be of their Side, their Vackeel was sent back last Night with a Present & fair Promises, which will not be Satisfactory; an open Breach, or an Alliance must be the Consequence, all

[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

that he dreads is showing his Teeth, & not being able to Bite, I have endeavour'd to fortify his faint Heart, & to inspire him with Courage & Resolution, but he is not easily susceptible of Inspiration : However Succojee seems to be in good Humour & high Spirits, We are very gracious to Day.

I wish Mahauphooz Cawn would come & help us to a final Determination, no Man I believe can do it more effectually. The Major seems to have laid aside his Intention of coming this way, as well as Salabad Jing. & I cannot help thinking but you have guessed very rightly the Nabob's Motives, in writing such a Letter, as from his Vackeel, which is more probably the Effect of his Wishes, than of any Proposals between those Chiefs.

The Major writes me that his Health will not permit him to treat with the Dalloway, & he tells me likewise that there are some Articles which cannot easily be settled; from what you are pleas'd to mention as an Alternative propos'd by the Nabob, I have been thinking, whether another Visit to Sadrass, for which this might be given as a Pretence may not be the least Evil :—To say the Truth an Accomodation with the Mysorean, as we wish it, is clogg'd with many Difficulty's, & after all the Execution not Entirely to be depended on for, if it is not agreeable to Mr. Dupleix, he will contrive some means or other to render it ineffectual, as We might Endeavour to do in the like Case, & if it is agreeable to Him, it may as well be concluded with him: besides in the one Case (supposing also a Method is found out of settling the Disputes about Arcot) the War is at an end, in the other it continues, our Force is divided, & it depends on the English only to oblige the Dalloway to perform his Contract, this King becomes perhaps our Enemy, & in order to ingratiate himself with our Adversarys, ready to take any Opportunity to Join against us, It being no difficult matter to form a Pretence for breaking an Agreement, when it serves an Interest.

As what I have now taken the Liberty to mention, is not the result of Deliberation but what occur'd to me, in writing this Letter, I am persuaded you will readily impute it, to what must be its only Apology, a good Intention. I am well convinc'd of its being liable to many & perhaps insurmountable Objections. I am with great Respect Hoñble Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant

Tanjour the
8th. May 1754. ROBT. PALK.

19TH: Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence & one to Mr. Palk Vizt.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

No. 7. Sir,

We wrote you the 30th. April & have receiv'd your Letters of the 23d. & 30th. of the same Month.

Repeated Letters have been sent to Abdul Bob Cawn & Mahauphooz Cawn, that their Troops are ill paid is true, nor is it in our Power to lend them 2 Lack of Rupees they disagree & are generally thought to have very little Affection for the Nabob the last Letter from Mahauphooz Cawn & Ensign Paccard say they should march by way of Tenevelly [?], we wish it may be so, but cannot rely on their Promise so often broken.

That the Nabob has not had it in his Power to push the Advantages of his Success is very evident, after the Battle of Syringham an unhappy difference arose between him & the Dalloway the Consequence of which was that he & our Troops were after great Loss of Time oblig'd to march by themselves without the Mysorean, Moratta & Tanjore Troops the want of good Horse was immediately perceiv'd & the Junction of the Moratta's was severely felt by the Enemy in the Engagement at Bavour after this the Moratta's drew off & the Nabobs with our Forces

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [19TH.]

encamped at Trivady, here again. We experienc'd the want of Horse; able to act on the Defensive only, the whole Army with difficulty supporting the Necessary Convoys from S^{t}. David, soon after the unlucky Accident at Trichenopoly made it absolutely necessary that they should march to its Relief Nothing could be Effected till the Junction of the Tanjore Horse when the Enemy were beat out of the Field. The Tanjoreans Retir'd & a strong Escort of ours was overpower'd by the Enemys numbers of Horse, ours having none to cover them. Our Troops have always behav'd with the greatest Bravery, & many have been their successes. This is universally known & the maimed who mount the Guards of most of our Settlements are strong Proofs of it. Weak indeed is our Situation, & though our Inclination prompts us to dó every Thing in our Power to support You We could not well have answer'd leaving our Settlements so Defenseless had not the Time of the usual Arrival of our Europe Ships been near. We have directed the Gentlemen at S^{t}. David to Land the Recruits from many Ships that may touch at that Place & as you inform us in your Letters of the 7th & 20th March that the Reinforcements we send you will be of no Effect without Horse we shall use our utmost Efforts with Mahauphez Cawn & the King of Tanjore.

From the Time of that cruel Neglect in the Officer at Trichenopoly having only 15 or 20 Days Provision in the Place instead of five Months which We had been advis'd of, which occasion'd your March & near ruin'd the Nabob's Affairs We came to a Resolution if possible to accomodate Affairs with the Dalloway nothing could be effected in Camp & several Proposals from time to time from the King of Tanjore which proved abortive, obstructed our Design, our several Letters to you will shew you the Particulars, as well as the Instructions given M^{r}. Cooke, the Nabob sent us his Plan, which is complied with, excepting that instead of the Article of 15 Lack 10 Lack is inserted the drawing off Morarow, the assisting the King of Tanjore & not molesting his Country the paying the Troops in alliance with the Nabob has always been accepted, please to remark that the Address of Vencatrow is to the Governour, but when a Treaty is concluded it takes another Form the Nabob & the Mysore [*sic*] are the treating Partys, the English are not Principals but Mediators, the Fort is to be deliver'd by the Nabob, the English guarrantee it, it is to be deliver'd on Condition the usual Tribute be constantly paid to the Circar. Mr. Dupleix writes us he intends to give Trichinopoly to the Mysorean, who having been once deceived We cannot think will be amused to draw of their Forces when they have so considerable an Advantage for the uncertainty of a Refusal in case of Orders to the Contrary.

We are of Opinion also that in Case this Treaty takes place we can spare an 100 Men to assist the Dalloway in regard to Madera & Tennevelly.

And in regard to the Command of Trichinopoly as you will please to observe there are to remain in that Fort only a Killedar of the Nabob's & an Officer of the Mysore King's We hope there will be no objection to it as it will be more secure than when Captn. Dalton had the Charge of it with 600 Mysoreans & a much less Garrison of ours, it is true there are a large Number of Prisoners but if this Treaty takes Place shall not we have a very fair opportuinity to remove them.

That everything may appear to you in as clear a Light as Possible We have put Vencatrows Letter into a regular Form, we now inclose it to you also a Remark of such Articles as are not concluded but which he believes he can Effect Peace seems to be the general Opinion of you and us; We wish we could effect it on the most agreeable Terms the only Measures that have occurr'd were a general one with the French which has proved Fruitless & an Accomodation with the Dalloway, the Terms We now send you are the utmost We can Expect & the Querie is whether the distress'd situation of the Nabob, & the advantagious one of the Enemy will admit of any hesitation in accepting them for the least unfavourble circumstance in our Affairs would very probably deprive us of them the greatest Difficultys are the King of Tanjore, & your situation, which should he upon our taking this Step, immediately go over to the Enemy, would be precarious & as you intimate this we have directed M^{r}. Palk in general Terms to learn that King's Resolution whether he will assist in opposing on [*sic*] what Plan he purposes in treating with the Enemy.

[19TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

We are very sensible of your Fatigue & how greatly it must have impair'd your Health & We have Endeavour'd to apply a Remedy but to no purpose for Col^{l}· Scott declin'd taking the Command, What can We do more? You tell us the Army is in a very precarious Situation & we are convinc'd it is so, but this Certainly makes it the more necessary that it should have a Commander of Experience & Conduct; We hope therefore you will be able to keep the Field a little longer, probably the Arrival of a Major from Europe may put in our Power to relieve you, we wish it may in the mean Time if you will make the Proposals to the Dalloway it may be a means of removing our greatest Difficultys or it must presently appear whether Vencatrow has deceiv'd us or not.

The 15th· Instant arriv'd our Honble Masters Ship S^{t}· George from England the 6th· Dec^{r}· she has brought us a f m s h /62/ Recruits & by the other Ships we may expect as many as they can Accomadate [*sic*].

Col^{l}· Scott came on Shore with a slow Feavour which increased & prov'd fatal to him he dyed the 12th· Instant.

We have no Answer yet from M^{r}· Dupleix concerning an Exchange of Prisoners.

The Reports concerning Salabad Jing & Ballazerows March to these Parts seems to have dropped, it is thought the Season is too far advanced.

167. 183. 115. 121 (a Treaty) is on 154. 149. 153. (foot) in 140 (Europe) 157. 164. (dele *ans*) [*sic*] with g, r, a, s (one) of 19. 55. 10. 46's (Dupleix's) principals sent to the 20. 18. 27 (English) for that purpose & we are told the Aspect of 180 167. 113. 115. (the Treaty) does not 77. 96. 99. (defeat) hopes of 169. 131. 125. 130 (Conclusion of which we shall have due Notice in the mean time 'tis said 75. 55. 61. (We) must 99. 86. 89. (defeat all) 72. 83. 84. (attempts) of 126. 133. 101 (the Enemy) 57. 119 (against us) if possible.

Vencatrow is at full Liberty to go wherever he pleases he proposes in few Days to leave this Place & assures us he will proceed directly to Syringham where he does not in the least doubt of Success to his Proposals so far as relates to his Master.

With this are Copies of Letters to the Nabob & King of Tanjore We are Sir. Your most Obed^{t}· Serv^{ts}· THOMAS SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 19th· May 1754.

N.B. Vencatrow's Proposals referr'd to in the foregoing Letter are enter'd in last Consultation.

TO THE REVEREND M^{R}· ROBERT PALK.

Sir,

I have receiv'd your Letters of the 25th· 28th· Ult^{o}· 6th· & 8th· Instant.

As you seem to think Succojee Naigue is the Prime Minister & the only one that obstructs your Designs its possible according to the Eastern Custom he expects you would pave the way with some present to him 'tis probable both French & Mysorean take this Method if you imagine it will facilitate Affairs do the same.

We cannot but think the King must know that if the Enemy should gain their Point notwithstanding the fair Promises & Threats alternately, they will not only demand the Tribute due, but very probably ruin him & if he should drop our Alliance who has he then to assist him We therefore conclude he would prefer acting a neutral part rather than take the desperate Measure of going over to the Enemy. but of what Signification will this be when it is evident that without horse the Nabob will be unable to preserve the Fort he tells you his Troops are at hand enquires after

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [19TH.]

the Force from Bombay & waits for Mauphaooz Cawn. from Bombay we may soon expect Reinforcements & others from Europe. Mahauphooz Cawn one Day writes he will march the next raises difficultys a third is on the march & a fourth other obstacles start up. there is a difference between him & his Brother & neither of them seem to have any regard for the Nabob so that their motion must be deemed extreemly precarious in this Situation. certainly it is absolutely necessary to come to some conclusion for Delays may prove fatal. After assuring him that we shall do nothing without his Knowledge We think you should without coming directly to the Point of Trichenopoly ask whether he thinks we can oppose the Enemy, if not, in general Terms, what Plan he would purpose for Treaty.

By General Reports neither Salabad Jing nor Ballazerow will for some time move this way.

I have wrote to Mr. Hopkins to avoid all Occasions of giving offence.

I shall endeavour to procure for the King a repeating Watch & Gun.

Please as soon as Possible to send me the Kings answer in regard to what his Vackeel wrote me concerning Madam Dupleix's Letter also desire him to transmit the Receipts for the annual Tribute of Deve Cotah, the Ballance of which shall be paid to his Order.

The Major's Letters will come under a flying Seal to you, yours & those from him please to transmit in the same manner to Mr. Starke.

The Cypher which you carried with you is made use of in the accompanying Letter to the Major if you have not had an Opportunity of sending him the Cypher the Paragraph will be unintelligible unless you explain it to him. I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant

Fort St. George
the 19th May 1754. THOS. SAUNDERS.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows. MONDAY THE 20TH

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs, No. 46.

My last No. 45 was on the 30th. Ultimo in answer to yours No. 3 No. 4 & 5 have been answer'd some time ago. I have receiv'd none since. I thought long before this to have heard that Coll. Scott was in his Road to relieve me. In hopes of it, I have struggled with Sickness, & infirmity for a long time. But now this is to inform you; that whether that Gentleman come or not I can hold it out no longer; & I must leave the Army. Nothing I think could retard him but waiting for your Instructions, plan of Operations, which I hope you will soon give him, as fully as he can desire, & ought to have. Nothing relating to our State of Affairs should, or I hope will be kept from him. I am just able now to sit in my Chair after a fortnights Confinement to my Bed with a Violent Pain in my Back. In short I am quite incapable of acting or being of Service. I hope you are convinced I have done what I could & have been long without Rest. On these Considerations I flatter myself Gentlemen nothing will be wanting on your side to procure me a much wanted relief; which you yourselves seem so Conscious, I stand in such need of.

[20TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

My Interpreter Poniapah had well nigh ruin'd us, by Carrying on a Correspondance with the Enemy. It was with Time & Patience we unravell'd that Villain's Treachery. I shall inform you of the Particulars in a few Days. and am Gentlemen Your most Obedient humble Servant

Trichinopoly
7th. May 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

The President lays before the Board three Letters from Mr. Palk which follow Viz^t.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Honble Sir,

I acquainted you last Night of my having receiv'd your Favour of the 28th. inclosing a general Letter to the Major the Conveyance is liable to so many Accidents that large Packets run a very great Risque.

That to the King is deliver'd, the inclos'd is just come in from the Major. I am with great Respect, Honble Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servt. ROBT. PALK.

Tanjour 9th May 1754.

P.S. The King has just now sent to enquire if the Troops from Bombay are arriv'd.

A Hircar which I keep constantly at Syringam brings Advice that Morarow march'd at 4 yesterday Morning, cross'd the Coleroon & incamp'd at Pitchunda, that he seperates on Account of 10 Lack due from the Dallaway, & intends to go to the N° ward perhaps to Pay Mauphis Cawn a Visit.

9th May 12 P.M.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Honble Sir,

I find the king's Letter, representing the large Offers made him by Madme. Dupleix was only a Repetition of an old Story, in order to ingratiate himself with the English, never suspecting, I imagine, that he should be called upon to prove the Reality of those Proposals. he desires to be excus'd answering particularly to that Part, till he can hear from his Vackeel; & as to the main Point, He assures me that *his Troops shall be ready at the proper Time, when the whole Force is collected.*

Morarow is returned, &, it is said encamp'd with the French, at Chercorepollam, on Chunda's old Ground; but was oblig'd to move at a greater Distance being annoyed by our Cannon, which is not improbable, as We heard much Firing last Night & this Morning.

We are inform'd from Syringham that the Nana & Mysoreans have come to an Agreement, the Terms are not mention'd I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most obedt. humble Servant.

Tanjour
12th May 1754. ROBT. PALK.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Honble Sir,

The King has sent Me two of his Hircars who came in just now from Syringham with Intelligence that Nandiroz hearing a large Convoy of our Provisions was coming from Kirinoor, march'd with his whole Army at three yesterday Morning to

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.* ——

the Golden Rock, to intercept it, intending also to incamp on this Side, that the Convoy however arriv'd safe on Saturday Night, but some of the returning Bullocks with an Escort, which the Enemy imagin'd to be the Convoy were attacked, & it being observ'd from the Fort our People march'd out to the S. E. under Cover of a Water Course with six Guns & engag'd them very briskly, put their whole Army into Confusion & oblig'd them to retreat to Syringham. [20TH.]

The Hircars declare that they saw one Captain & 60 Europeans buried, & a great many wounded besides two of their head Jemmidars, many Horse & Sepoys killed & Wounded. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Tanjour the
13th May 1754.
1 P.M.

ROBT. PALK.

Agreed that the Reason of Coll. Scotts declining the Command be fully explain'd to the Major that he may have no Reason to imagine it proceeded from any want of Inclination in us, that he be desir'd to continue in the Field a little longer when probably it may be in our Power to relieve him either by the Arrival of a Major from Europe, the Conclusion of Peace, which our Honble Masters give us Room to hope for, or by the accomodation with the Dalloway on the Terms propos'd by Vencatrow in case he (the Major) will communicate those Proposals to him, which We desire he will do & in case his Health should not permit him to go thro with the Negociation he will immediately determine on some Method to disburthen him.

The Country Correspondence laid before the Board.

Mahauphooz Cawn writes that the Difficulties he is reduc'd to for want of Money is the Occasion of his delaying to March for Trichenopoly, that he has 1,300 Horse & 600 Seapoys whose wages amount to 52000 Rs. ℔ Month, that there is a Ballance of a Lack of Rupees now due to them which they demand & also a Months advance before they will move, that Abdul Bob Cawn is also largely indebted to his Troops to satisfy all which incumbrances three Lacks at least will be necessary but as he finds it impossible to get this Sum he proposes to make a feint March as if he were going to collect the Revenues & so draw them with him to Deve Cotah.

Captn. Campbell advises that his Hircars bring him Intelligence the Enemy have 12 hundred Sepoys twenty Europeans & one hundred and Sixty Topasses & Coffreys in Garrison at Gingee, that they have encamp'd on the Bank of a River near Gingee four Hundred Horse & two Hundred Sepoys but no Cannon & by Wandewash 600 Sepoys, two hundred Horse & four or five Hundred Peons with one Gun. this is all the Force he can learn the Enemy have that way, & their Intention it is said is either to attack Chittaput, oppose Mahauphooz Cawn's March, or destroy the Country.

Two Letters from Ensign Paccard the first Advises that Mahauphooz Cawn had alterd [*sic*] his Design of marching as above mention'd & thought it impossible to proceed witht. a larger Force of Europeans, in the mean time he propos'd to collect the Tribute due by the Pollygars & then proceed. in the second Letter he acknowledges one from the President approving the Scheme proposed by Mahauphooz Cawn to draw his People to Deve Cotah by a deceitfull March, which Letter he immediately communicated to Mahauphooz Cawn who thereupon resolv'd to set forward in a few Days.

Lieutenant Preston at Arcot writes the 15th. Instant that the Nabobs had in a Council resolv'd that it was dangerous to march to Trichenopoly without a larger Force but that they had form'd another Scheme of making a Diversion in the Mysore & Moratta Country's where they hope to raise a large sum of Money.

These Various Accounts of the Irresolute Behaviour of Abdul Bob & Mahauphooz Cawn plainly show that they have no manner of Intention to proceed of which it is agreed to advise Mr. Palk & the Major that no relyance may be plac'd on them.

[20TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

The President represents to the Board that notwithstanding it has often been intimated to the several Officers on Detachment & Camp that they are not to Correspond on publick Affairs with any Body but the President they pay but little regard to it & every Transaction is immediately communicated to the whole Town which is of very bad tendency and may often render well concerted Schemes abortive, It is therefore Orderd that no Officer do on any Account Correspond on publick Affairs with any Body but the President on Pain of forfeiting his Commission, which Major Lawrence is to be advis'd of & desir'd to Communicate to those at Camp.

The Commissary Reports that besides the ten thousand R^{s}. reported at last Consultation he has since receiv'd ten thousand R^{s}. more on Account of the Tripossore Money, which is also continued in his Hands to defray the Charges of the Troops abroad & is to be carried to the Account of Mahomed Ally Cawn.

Agreed that Five thousand Pagodas be remitted to M^{r}. Palk at Tanjore for the use of the Army as soon as Bills can be procured.

THO^{S}. SAUNDERS.
CHA^{S}. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^{R}. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^{S}. BOURCHIER.

22. Receiv'd the following Letter from M^{r}. Palk.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}

Honble Sir,

Captn. Caillaud in a Letter dated the 12th. at Night gives the following Account of the Action.

"I told you last Night I was to march to bring in Provisions, little thinking "what a Breakfast I was to have in the Morning; march I did, & in my Way before "any of the Provisions had Join'd us, I was attack'd by some three or four Thousand "Horse Sepoys & Topasses, however I fought my way through them with our little "Body, & according to Godwins Advice, who (by the By) is Wounded, I took a good "Post behind a Bank & waited for the rest of our little Army to come up, & support "me which they soon did; by this Time the whole of the Enemy were join'd & in "great Numbers; It was resolv'd that We should fight our way back as we had "order'd the Provisions to return. accordingly We set out, upon which the french "Battalion on our right Flank, Thousands of Sepoys in our Rear, & on our Left "attack'd us in Conjunction with their Horse, but We so roughly handled the "French Battalion with Grape & small Arms that according to Custom they ran for "it, & We retreated in good Order.

"We cannot tell the Loss of the Enemy, but it must be very considerable; "We have about 30 or 40 Wounded 7 killed & 3 or 4 missing, 6 Officers are "Wounded, among them Captn. Polier who commanded, when the whole fell upon "your humble Servant. The Major was so ill he could not be of the Party for which "he was not a little sorry, he gives his Service & begs you will write the Account "to Madrass, & at the same time acquaint the Governour & Council, that I am now "the only Captain in the Field, Captn. Howes being also wounded."

* The foregoing Para. contains the substance of this account.

* Inclos'd is an Account which the King has receiv'd from his Vackeels at Seringham & Trichenopoly, he read it to me yesterday in a large Company, is quite overjoy'd at the News, & wishes our whole Force was collected, that the Dalloway may be rewarded according to his Merit.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [22ND.]

He has receiv'd intelligence that the Nana has compromis'd with the Mysoreans * but refuses to come into his Measures about Trichinopoly, on the Contrary he promises to send 10,000 Horse to assist the King of Tanjore, & intends paying a Visit to the Tanks & Pagodas at Comberconam. * for 18 Lack.

Morary threatens daily to lay this Country waste with Fire & Sword if the King persists in his Obstinacy, but he is staunch & in spite of their Threats will I believe continue so.

Mahauphooz Cawn makes very tedious Work of it, the Arrival of a French Ship or two & the swelling of the Rivers will I fear put other Excuses in his Head, besides the want of Money if he Delays much longer.

We also hear that Shawnavas Cawn is succeeded in his Office under Salabad Jing by Sydo Lascar Cawn: True or False I give you the Current News & am with great Respect Hoñble Sir. Your most Obedt. humble Servant

Tanjour
the 15th May 1754. ROBT. PALK.

On receipt of the foregoing Letter it was resolv'd to send all the Officers that could possibly be spar'd, to the Major's Assistance as will appear by the following Letter which was sent away the same Night.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA. No. 8.

Sir,

The 19th. Instant We replied to your Letters of the 23d. & 30th. April have [*sic*] since receiv'd one of the 7th. Instant No. 46 which really gives us much Concern on your own Account as well as the Companys, your want of Health We must acknowledge is an Affair that concerns you nearly, & it engages our Attention so much that could We find out a way to relieve you without a manifest hazard to the Publick, We should not hesitate a Moment to do it, there are three Events either of which may give us that Pleasure, the Arrival of a Major from Europe, the Article wrote you in Cypher in our last or the Accomplishment of Vencatrow's Proposals, neither of these can remain long in Suspence of the two first We hourly expect the Determination, the latter rests at present with You. dont imagine that by this we mean to draw you into an Intricate Negociation that may be spun out to a great Length, We have no such Intention, a bare mention to the Dalloway of Vencatrow's Proposals must presently shew whether he has deceiv'd us or not, if he has, your trouble in that Affair will be at an End, but if the Dalloway should relish them, perhaps, the Ice once broke the Negociation may be carried on from hence or if not, & your health should not then permit you to compleat it, we will think of some Method to disburthen you immediately, the Point at Present is to know whether Vencatrow has only amus'd us or not & We hope we shall shortly thro' your Means be satisfy'd in that Particular. We read with Concern that Paragraph in your Letter where you seem to think nothing but the want of our Instructions could have retarded Coll. Scott. After we had consulted you about sending for him, wrote you how pleas'd we were with his Resolution of coming, advis'd you of the Step we took to hasten your Relief as much as possible by leaving a Letter for the Coll. at St. David in case he should touch there, & in general assur'd you of our good inclination to give you some Respite; after all this we say, it would be judging harshly of you were We to suppose you could impute to Us a voluntary neglect of this Kind without any Grounds; no, Sir, We are willing to believe & indeed have cause to think insinuations of this sort from Prejudiced or designing Men have not been wanting, We are sorry they should find a readier Place in your Belief than the strongest Assurances We can give; so far were We from omitting any thing, that it was more than once deliberated in Council how to prevail on Coll. Scott to take the Command, we try'd every Means but he positively declar'd in Writing that he would not & even said he had no intention to do it when he left Bengal.

[22ND.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

It was fortunate you discover'd the Treachery of Poniapah, the Villain should be made an Example of.

We omitted in our last to answer an Objection you make to the Article in Vencatrow's Proposals relating to the Plunder of Syringham enclosed is a Copy of an Agreement made shortly after the Surrender of that Place for the Division of the Plunder taken there & at Walconda, by which you will see the Dallaways Demand is not altogether unreasonable, tho' you say it cannot be complied with because that plunder or the greatest part has already been expended or sold & divided amongst the Men, to obviate this Difficulty a Provision is now made that an Equivalent in Money shall be allow'd for what is not in being.

We have the Pleasure to learn by a Letter from Mr. Palk that you have lately gain'd a Victory, at least a very considerable advantage over the Enemy, We heartily congratulate you on this good Success, which We hope may be a Means of bringing the Dalloway the more readily to a Conclusion & encouraging the King of Tanjore, whose Spirits Mr. Palk tells us seem elated on it. The Officers for their Gallant Behaviour deserve our Thanks & they have them, 'tis a great Allay to our Pleasure that so many of them are wounded which makes it necessary you should be immediately supplied with others we have therefore order'd Captn. Pigou Dillens & Innis to proceed to you Directly, Captn. Pascal is to supply Captn. Innis's place at Deve Cotah & the Party there is to be under the Command of Captn. Lin.

Secresy [*sic*] in the Transaction of publick Affairs is certainly in General Essential to their Success, but this is what We cannot boast of, there is scarce a Circumstance relating to Military Affairs but is as well known to the whole Town as to us ; We do not point particularly at your Camp every Detachment sent out & every Garrison gives us sufficient Cause for this Observation We think it shou'd be prevented as much as Possible, & have therefore order'd that no Officers correspond on publick Affairs with any body but the President on Pain of forfeiting his Commission which We beg you will signify to the Officers with you. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 22d May 1754.

23. Arriv'd the Ship Fort St. David with Letters from Bombay advising of their having sent us a Reinforcement by that Ship.

The Fort St. David having touch'd & landed the said Reinforcement at Fort St. David it was agreed to order the whole Detachment immediately to Join Captain Pigou's at Deve Cotah & Letters were accordingly prepar'd advising Major Lawrence & Mr. Palk thereof but before they were dispatch'd the following Letter was receiv'd from Mr. Palk which occasion'd the Postcripts [*sic*] after the said Letters of the 24th. as follow.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Hon'ble Sir,

I desir'd Mr. Hopkins to communicate to You the Contents of a Letter I wrote him yesterday, on a Request from the King, that our Detachment at Deve Cotah might march immediately to this Place, to oppose the Enemy in Conjunction with his Troops, in Case they made any attempt on his Country. I wrote also to the Major on the same Subject, that We may not be disappointed should Mr. Hopkins want Authority, or I think it improper to give Captn. Pigou Orders. So ready an Assistance will not only oblige the King, but Insure his Junction, at least Succojee promises very fairly, & indeed I believe his Intentions are good.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [23RD.]

Mr. Hopkins can have no other Objection but the want of Orders, & the leaving that part of the Country Expos'd, Discretion & the Necessity of our Affairs ought to supply the first, & in regard to the Latter, The Rivers will soon be almost a sufficient Defence, besides when I was at Deve Cotah, It was agreed on all Hands that our Garrison there was as strong as that Chellimbrum only perhaps not so enterprising: It is indeed a very great Misfortune that We suffer'd them to raise the Seige of Palemcotah in so much Tranquillity.

A Movement of the Enemy's on the 16th. makes Captn. Pigou's March still more necessary. Their Operations are exactly agreeable to the Plan laid down to them by that Villain Poniapah who knew too much of our Affairs not to advise them Right. Kirinoor the Rendezvous for our Provisions was plunder'd the 16th. Our Seapoys made little or no Defence, they were only intent on Saving themselves, the Gun a two Pounder, Paddy &ca. is taken, and I hear the Enemy have incamp'd on the same Ground, which infallibly cuts of our Provisions, & must oblige the Major to move.

A Relation of Bokingee's is just come in from Seringham, He assures us that the French had killed on the Spot upwards of forty Men & 100 Wounded, one Officer killed & 5 more Wounded; their Loss in Horse and Seapoys is very Considerable. He says that Morarow is on the other Side of the Coleroon preparing to plunder this Country and that the rest of the Army are to destroy Tondamon's.

I have a Letter from the Major dated yesterday, He is anxious to know the King's Determination, but mentions nothing of his Designs on this new Diversion of the Enemy I give him daily all the Intelligence I can pick up. I have only receiv'd one Letter from you. I am with great Respect Your most obedt. humble Servt:

Tanjour the
18th. May 1754. ROBT. PALK

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

We have just receiv'd Letters from the President & Council of Bengal by the Ship Fort St. David advising us that they have sent us on that Ship r, p, s, n, b, (97) Swiss, Officers included also a Detachment of w, a, t, l, c, k, (54) Men all 145 (Topasses) except 148 (Officers) these are already landed at Fort St. David, & we write this Evening to the Gentlemen there to send them directly to Deve Cotah to Join Captn. Pigou's Party & wait your Directions, there q, a, v, o, (18) more 145 167 (Topasses) with a Lieutenant a Serjeant & 2 Corporals coming on the Northumberland Snow which is hourly expected, these too as soon as they arrive are to be sent to Deve Cotah. The Gentlemen at Bombay advise us further that besides this Reinforcement the [*sic*] would send us by the Company's Ships Winchelsea & Montfort as soon as they return'd from Surat whither they were gone with Freight b, e, h, y, g, s, r, q, (200) Military & f, a, i. w. 9, 6, 9, (300) 147. 153. (Seapoys) that they had directed the Gentlemen at Tellicherry & Anjengo to supply us with g, l, q, y (150) 145, 108, 171 (Topasses) & to enlist for us some Calliquilone Seapoys who are reckon'd good Soldiers. No. 2.

The President writes this Evening to the King of Tanjore, on whom We hope this News may have a good Effect We have directed the Gentlemen at St. David to land the Recruits out of any Ships from Europe that may touch there & discipline them which we hope will reach you We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants THOS. SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
23rd. May 1754.

[23RD.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

Just as the foregoing Letter was closing last Night the President receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Palk advising that the King had requested Captn. Pigous Party might march to Tanjore As the Junction of the Bombay Detachment may be of Consequence We have directed Mr. Hopkins in Case Captn. Pigou should not have marched, to detain him a Day or two for that Purpose, but if he is already gone, to send him immediate Advice of the intended Reinforcement that he may take proper Measures to facilitate the Junction We have sanguine Hopes the King will now act with us We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
24th. May in
the Morning.

TO THE REVD. MR. ROBERT PALK AT TANJORE.

Sir,

I wrote to you the 19th. Instant & have since receiv'd your Letters of the 9. 12. 13 & 15th. May with the News of the late Success at Trichinopoly, as all our Letters to Major Lawrence come open to you it is needless to repeat the Substance of them, We wrote to him also the 19th. & again Yesterday. It is so much the King of Tanjore's Interest to keep fair with us that I am of Opinion with you Morarow's Threats cannot frighten him into their Party, his standing Neuter is what there is the greatest reason to fear as the Assistance of his Horse might retrieve our Affairs & the want of them may distress us, I have wrote Mauphoos Cawn & Abdul Bob in the most pressing Terms but I much fear they will never be prevaild on to March & if nothing but their Junction will induce the Tanjoreans to move We certainly depend on a broken Staff. A Letter to Majore [*sic*] Lawrence the Contents of which you will observe, accompanys this as does also one to the King of Tanjore & a Translation of it for your Information if his Spirits were elated on the last defeat of the Enemy surely this News will put him into a proper Temper to be press'd with Success for the March of his Horse, the sooner you can get an Audience to communicate it the better & in the most urgent manner. I am Sir Your most obedient Servant THOS. SAUNDERS.

Fort St. George
the 23 May 1754

Late last Night after writing the foregoing I receiv'd your Letter of the 18th. in case Captn. Pigou should not have marched when this reaches Deve Cotah Mr. Hopkins is directed to detain him a few Days for the Bombay Detachment but if he is already gone Mr. Hopkins is to send him immediate Notice of this Reinforcement that he may take proper Measures to facilitate the Junction which seems necessary as the Bombay Officers are entire Strangers to the Country I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant. THOS. SAUNDERS.

Fort St. George
24th. May in
the Morning.

25. Receiv'd the following Letters from Major Lawrence & Mr. Palk.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF
FORT ST. GEORGE.

No. 47. Honble Sir & Sirs

I acquainted you in my last No. 46 how We had been deceiv'd by Poniapah. I now send you an Account of the whole Affair as was taken down at the different examinations we had about it. His Guilt is so evident that I had not delayed passing

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [25mo]

Sentence & putting it in Execution immediately: But that he had been all his Life a Company's Servant, & sent by you to me as an Interpreter. I thought it proper to defer punishing him, till I advis'd you of it; & also intend waiting your Answer; If you have any Objection to his suffering Death I beg you will be speedy in sending me Word, for fear your Instructions might come too late, for I see Nothing can save him unless as I said before, the Objection comes from You.

By this Accident I am in great Want of a Linguister I beg you will look out, & have us supplied with a Person proper for the Business, & whose character as yet has been good (For you may remember Poniapah had been accus'd of Dishonesty before & put in the Pillory I believe) I have nobody here; For Maddin Gopaul I think is not to be trusted.

I intend sending back Ramah Naigue, as I find him of no manner of Service. He has been with Tondiman some Time endeavouring to make a Peace between him & the Moravy Pollygar. but his Mediation has prov'd ineffectual & I believe his Interest at the Court of Tanjore will be of little Service to us there. Neither can he do as Interpreter. He requires more State & attendance than will suit with an Employ of that Kind; which obliges a Man being always in the Way, & ready at all Calls.

What is to be done Gentlemen with our Party Encamped near Deve Cotah. I am unwilling to call for them here as the Enemy has collected a good deal of Force that way; And yet our Weakness here makes me uneasy for the Want [Event?], should the Enemy oblige us to come to Action As for Mauphoos Cawn I am tired with Reports & Conjectures; but I suppose you know what he is a doing.

I must renew again Gentlemen my Earnest Sollicitations for a Relief Col^{l}· Scott's not coming up after he was sent for expressly for that Purpose amazes me I hope you will Consider it is hard for me to fall a Sacrifice to any little Misunderstanding, that may have Arose & that it is really your Interest to have such a Man as the Col^{l}· at the Head of your Army. I beg this may Influence you to conciliate any little difference that may have happen'd: And let me have the Satisfaction to leave an Army I have had the Honour so long to Command, that have so well done their Duty under me, whose Behaviour has got me some Credit; let me have I say the Satisfaction to leave them in such good Hands as the Colonel's. It is my only wish, & I am sure your Good. I am Gent^{n}· Your most Obedient humble Servant.
S. LAWRENCE.

Camp the
11th· May 1754.

P.S. I intended sending off this Letter on the 11th· the Day it was wrote, but was oblig'd to defer it on Account of waiting for the Examination papers being finished. In the mean Time Captn· Caillaud was ordered on the 12th· in the Morning to march with a party to escort in some Provisions we had Notice were a Coming in from Tondimans Country. At Break of Day he found a Considerable Party of the Enemy had lodged themselves in the Road he was to march. However he drove them from it; & took the Post they were in & lodged himself, & there waited till We could march & support him According to his Orders Our moving the whole, made the Enemy do the same, & brought on a General Affair. As We had sent Word for the Provisions to Return. We had nothing else to do but to march back to our Camp In our March the French Battalion on our right Flank, Numbers of Seapoys in our Rear, & on the other; & the Horse all round us. The French Battallion was so warmly receiv'd, with Grape & small Arms that they soon run for it; but the Seapoys harassed us greatly & occasion'd most of our Loss. We got to Camp in good Order & without leaving any thing behind us. The Men behav'd like gallant Fellows that knew they had nothing for it but to Conquer, or be cut in Pieces How long this may last I cant tell but I much fear the end on it will be our being oppress'd by Numbers. We have lost in this Affair 46 Men Killed & Wounded, all Europeans, but 4 & 6 Officers wounded. Captn· Polier who commanded (For I was so ill I

[25th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

could not move) Captn. Howes Lieutt. Godwin, & Monchanin, & Ensigns Wood & Hays. Mr. Godwin is likely to suffer most, tho' his Wound is not mortal I have now but one Captn. left in the Field Captn. Cailland I wish Gentlemen Words could point out our Situation so as to be felt & persuade you to send us more Force if you can do it. all that I could collect & get out of the Fort yesterday to support the Party was not upon my Honour one Sixth Part of the Enemy's Force when they were all join'd together & We were attacked by them. I leave this to your serious Consideration.

I wrote to Mr. Palk yesterday immediately after the Affair to give as early intelligence as we could.

May the 13th S LAWRENCE.

I have just now receiv'd your favour of the 30th. Ulto & shall answer it in a Day or two. The Enemy have suffer'd Considerably.

To THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE

No. 48. Honble Sir & Sirs

My last was on the 11th. with a Postcript of the 13th. also acknowledg'd in it the Receipt of a Letter from you which I now intend answering dated the 30th. Ultimo, you will please to take Notice that two or three Victorys more will leave us all on Trichinopoly Plains, & tho' to be sure it is a Death a Soldier would wish for; to dye a Conquering; yet as I have the Honour of Commanding I cannot answer it to see brave Men throw away their Lives every Day for Nothing. this is to assure you that before it is too late I will march down the Remains of the Army to the Settlements where you will please to Order & direct them I have represented my Situation often enough & in strong Terms sufficient to have made you sensible had you been willing that unless you would reinforce me I could not stay much longer but as I find Representations are of no Effect It is time for me to take care of my Charge in such a Manner as I think I can answer to myself & those who Employ me. If I could lay under the Walls of Trichenopoly I might wait for a Reinforcement. But Gentlemen I must bring in Provisions or starve. Or was I to live on the Fort the Stores there wou'd not serve Me & the Garrison two Months. while the Enemy continue thus Superiour the bringing in every Convoy is attended with a Risque of losing the whole. Besides the Enemy since the last Affair have thought of a more effectual Method & have marched a Strong Detachment in Tondiman's Country & have taken Post which effectually cuts off all Supplys from that Quarter The Tanjore Country is equally impracticable to us from the smallness of our Force. This way of proceeding of theirs is exactly the Plan laid down to them by that Villain Poniapah which they now pursue. what Letter Coll. Scott could Receive from Me I dare say would not alter his Resolutions & the Reasons he gives me in his for not coming are very little Satisfactory. His Words are "I am extreemly glad to find your Health is so much recover'd & as there is no further occasion for me. I propose in a few Days to return to Calcutta. & that is all he says. Pray who could tell him I was so well recover'd as not to want him here I might be better from a severe Fit of Illness but that sure did not Imply Health perfectly Recover'd. I want rest from a long Campaign & Time to restore a hurt Constitution that does not insure me two Hours Ease together I cannot but believe there are other Reasons but from Wheresoever the Difficultys have arose I am the Sufferer & must be equally oblig'd to whoever have been the Occasion of it, I cannot think that in an Affair of this Consequence & from the general Character of Coll Scott that he would take his Resolution from a Common flying Report of my Recovery he must have had it from good Authority to determine him or it must be an Excuse to cover some other Reason he did not care to communicate to me. Let it however be as it will I have taken my Resolution which on the Arrival of the first Europe Ship I shall put in Execution.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [25TH.]

your Proposals to the Nabob he has entirely acquisc'd [*sic*] to & sent a Letter to his Vackeel with Salabad Jing in consequence which Letter is first to be sent to Madrass for your Inspection & I think is what you requir'd. I have not heard lately from M^r. Palk as the Roads are stopp'd but by Reports from that Court we have a little Reason to hope for an alteration in our favour which is absolutely the only Thing I think can save us The Morattas have plunder'd some Villages upon which Monajee was call'd for to Court, & it [*sic*] is to get the Command & that the Horse is march'd out of Tanjore. they are much afraid that Morarow Intends paying them another Visit. Morarow & the King have Quarrell'd to all outward appearance the former having seperated his Force & is now encamped on the other side of the Caleroon [*sic*] on Account it is said of some Money due which he cannot get but at Tanjore they think it is a feint the better to cover their designs on that Country. The Negociation with the Dolloway you will see by my Letter of the 30th. I have declin'd. so if on that Affair you are resolv'd you must think of sending somebody out to transact it My March to Tanjore on that Account will not happen but I may be forc'd to it on another As you will see by the Prior part of my Letter. I have order'd Captn. Pigou up to Candenour & there I shall give him further Orders as I see Convenient. I am Gentlemen, your most Obedient Servant S. LAWRENCE.

Trichenopoly
May the 18th. 1754.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R.

Honble Sir

By a letter dated yesterday from the Major I find he has already order'd Captn. Pigou to this Place. without receiving what I writ to Him on that Subject.

The Disposition of this Court is so fluctuating, Elevated by any little Success, & depress'd at the least gloomy appearance, that I shall be silent on this late Motion of the Enemy, till Captn. Pigou advances, for fear they shou'd object to our Troops coming this way; at present the March is at their Desire.

I shall write the Major that in my Opinion if he can move to Coillady or Triakatapully: It may help our Affairs here, & enable him to subsist his Army. without draining the Magazines in Trichenopoly & the sooner this is done the better.

A letter of his goes by this Conveyance which will best explain to you his Situation. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant

Tanjore the
19th. May 1754. ROB^T. PALK.

Enclosed are some Lr^s. about the Deve Cotah Bramins. He promises daily an Answer to your last.

Return'd the following Answer to Major Lawrences foregoing Letter. 26.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^R. COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA

Sir

We wrote you the 23^d with a Postcript of the 24th. which with our Letters of the 19th. & 22^d. answer all yours to N°. 46 inclusive, We have since receiv'd yours N°. 47 & 48 to which We immediately reply. No. 10.

We have attentively perus'd & consider'd the Examinations you have sent us in Relation to Poniapahs Treachery which appears so plain that there is not even Room to doubt of his Guilt; his having been all his Life a Company's Servant is so far from lessening that it aggravates his Crime, which in our Opinion deserves Death & that in the most ignominious manner. In your Letter you take no Notice of

[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

Peremrauze tho by the Examination it appears he was privy to a great part of the Affair, for when the Bramine was first spoke to by Poniapah to carry a Letter to Syringham it is prov'd that he consulted Peremrauze upon it who advis'd him to undertake it. now it is evident the Bramine knew the Affair Poniapah propos'd to employ him in was treasonable, for he objected to it that if he were caught he should be hang'd, not by the Enemy for Poniapah directly promis'd him indemnity with us by saying he employ'd him as a Spy & it carries with it the strongest probability that when the Bramine consulted Peremrauze he told him the whole Story, without which his Advice could have been to no Purpose, it also appears that in the subsequent Correspondence he knew of many Circumstances & when accus'd before the Nellour Subadar he confess'd the whole & beg'd it might be conceal'd from You; why should he desire it to be conceal'd if he were not Guilty? it does not appear indeed that he was an active Party, but he ought to have discover'd any Treachery that come to his Knowledge & his not doing so amounts to a negative Misprision the Punishment for which should be fine & Imprisonment or some exemplary Corporal punishment not affecting his Life, We approve of your inflicting either on the Delinquent or pardoning him if you know of any Circumstances that plead in his Favour.

To supply the Place of Poniapah we shall use our utmost Endeavours to find out & send you an Interpreter as soon as possible in the mean time We think you had better make use of Ramah Naigue who must be content to lay by his State when the Service of the publick requires it, unless you have any body else in Camp that can better answer your present Purpose & in that Case We have no Objection to your sending him back.

Immediately on the receipt of Mr. Palk's Letter advising of your late Success & the Difficultys you were reduc'd to by having so many Officers Wounded We order'd Captains Pigou D'Illens & Innis to your Assistance, leaving the Detachment at Deve Cotah under the Command of Captn. Lin to wait your Orders the next Day we were advis'd that the March of that Party to Tanjore was necessary but at the same time receiving the News that a, f, g, w, l, g, r, (151) Military were landed at Fort St. David from Bombay we immediately order'd them to Deve Cotah and directed Mr. Hopkins to detain the Party a few Days till the Bombay Detachment could Join but by a Letter this Day receiv'd from Mr. Hopkins we find Captn. Pigou with The Party marched the 21st. this will not prevent the Bombay Reinforcement from proceeding for We told the Gentn. at St. David to hasten their Departure even tho' Captn. Pigou should be gone & Mr. Hopkins has Orders immediately to advise Captn. Pigou of their coming that proper Measures may be taken for their Junction the Gentn. at St. David are to land all the Recruits out of the Europe Ships that may touch there, who, & those that may be landed here, shall be sent to you as soon as they can be properly disciplin'd & you may depend on the most vigorous Measures on our part, & the readiest Assistance in every Respect that We can possibly give you, this is our fix'd Resolution, We therefore earnestly hope you will not quit the Field or look upon Affairs as quite desperate at a Time when they are at such a Crisis that one Way or other there is a good Prospect of their mending either by our Cypher of the 19th. the Plan of Operations with the Dallaway or the Arrival of Reinforcements from Europe & Bombay which probably may procure the Junction of the Tanjoreans, We must repeat We dont desire to embarass you with the Negociation with the Dallaway unless it were agreeable to you to go thro' with it, all we want is to know his Sentiments on Vencatrow's Proposals which We are still more inclin'd to believe he will Comply with from what is mention'd on that Subject, in the Examination of Poniapah's Affair so that tho' you have declin'd the negociation We hope you will make the Proposals this We wrote you in our Letter of the 30th Ultimo was what We had first at Heart & We are still equally desirous of it's Success, should it fail the Nabob's Scheme may then be try'd in case Nothing better should happen from our Cypher of the 19th.

The case being as you say that the late Motions of the Enemy prevent your getting Provisions from Tondaiman's Country or Tanjore so that you must either starve or lay under the Walls of Trichinopoly & live on the Store there, We are of Opinion

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*—— [26TH.]

the Army should by all means move towards Tanjore if it can be done consistently with what we wrote you in that Respect the 30th. Ultimo, this may at once bring the king the readier into our Measures, & facilitate your Junction with Captn. Pigou's Party & the Bombay Detachment, We are very sensible the Enemy will still have a great Superiority but this Reinforcement will We hope enable you to stand your Ground a while till we can know the Success of the Scheme with the Dallaway or that We can still strengthen you more by the Recruits from Europe; You should not have wanted Reinforcements before if We could have found Men, our Garrisons are left quite bare, were you at present to march the Remains of the Army down to our Garrisons Trichinopoly must inevitably be lost without any Equivalent: if it is impossible or not adviseable to stay where you are it were infinitely better to march into the Tanjore Country where you may subsist; which you may protect & from whence you may with greater Ease march when strengthened to the Succour of Trichenopoly.

We have already wrote you so fully in relation to Coll. Scott that we scarce think it necessary to say any more to convince you of our good Intentions yet as you hint that he must have had his intelligene of your amended Health from better Authority than flying Report We will not leave you to doubt whether that Authority was ours or not & therefore We do assure you that we not only read him your Letters at the Board where you complain of your incapacity to continue in the Field but he was there also told that from the private Advices continually receiv'd from Camp we were convinc'd of the precariousness of your Health to which he replied that even where [*sic*] you Dead he did not think he could as a King's Officer answer taking the Command whilst we were in Arms against the French. the truth is he thought our Affairs in a bad Way & that there was no Honour to be got but some might be lost this he intimated at the Board.

Once more let us press you to continue in the Command a little longer & we will do our best to relieve you as soon as possible.

We have this Day sent Mr. Palk a Bill of Exchange for five thousand Pagodas for the use of the Army.

The Northumberland Snow is arriv'd here with what wrote you the 23d. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 26 May 1754.

Sent to Mr. Robert Palk a Bill of Exchange for 5000 Pagodas for the use of the Army. 26.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER

MONDAY THE 28TH.

Mr. Hopkins Chief of Deve Cotah in a Letter read this Day in Consultation representing that his Garrison is not sufficient for the Defence of that Settlement It is agreed that a Reinforcement of about Seventy Men be sent thither on the St. George & that Mr. Hopkins be permitted to raise three Company's of Seapoys, which when disciplind may either be kept there or sent to Camp as Occasion may require, it is also agreed that the Gentlemen at St. David be directed, in case any of the Europe Ships should touch there to take the first Opportunity after they have landed the Recruits to send as far as one Hundred to Deve Cotah where they may be disciplin'd & held in rediness [*sic*] to act wherever their Services may be required.

[28TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1754.*——

Captn. Campbell at Chingalaput writes that he has Intelligence that a Party of the Enemy but what Number he does not know march'd from Trichinopoly towards Gingee he also advises that Party's of the Enemy are continually making Incursions from Allamparvey into Chingalaput Bounds plundering & destroying wherever they Come which obliges him to send out some of his Seapoys to protect the Country as the Nabob has not one that way. He likewise represents that the Duty of the Garrison is become very hard several of them having been sent in Sick he therefore Requests a Reinforcement of fourteen Europeans may be sent him which Number he thinks absolutely necessary for the safety of the Garrison as a watchfull Eye must be kept over the Prisoners.

Agreed that a Detachment of fourteen Europeans be draughted from this Garrison & sent to Chingalaput agreeable to Captain Campbell's Request.

Ensign Paccard advises that Mauphoos Cawn continues in his Camp near Arcot & does not seem to have the least Intention to March.

Letter from the King of Tanjore complaining that certains [*sic*] Bramins who on his recommendation have long been permitted to enjoy several Maniams or free Grounds in the Districts of Deve Cotah have lately been imprison'd by Mr. Hopkins upon the false information of one Nagaboshen a Braimin, that the said Bramins were not the Persons recommended by him, he therefore requests that they may be set at Liberty & confirm'd in the Possession of the said Maniams & that Nagaboshen may be either sent to him or kept in Confinement.

Agreed that Mr. Hopkins be reprimanded for confining the Bramins without our Directions that he be order'd to set them at Liberty & keep Nagaboshen in Confinement till he receive further Orders. that he also be directed never in future to decide matters of Property & Priviledge without first consulting us.

Letter from the Killedar of Palamcotah representing his Apprehensions of the Enemy's Attempts upon that Fort & its Districts & Requesting our Assistance in protecting them.

Agreed that Mr. Hopkins be directed to give him all the Assistance he can consistently with the safety of his own Garrison, the Killedar defraying all the Charges the Company may be at on that Account.

The Major being in want of an Interpreter the President is desir'd to propose it to Paupa Braminy.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

AT A CONSULTATION

MONDAY THE 3D.

Present.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR: GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM — HENRY POWNEY
JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER
MR. WYNCH *absent.*

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

No. 49

Honble Sir & Sirs

I acquainted you in my last No. 48 that the Enemy had march'd a large Detachment in Tondiman's Country. they have effectually cut off our Communication;

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*—— [3RD.]

& I now set out to make the best of my way for Tanjour. where we have some hopes of being joyn'd by the King & Also to facilitate the Junction of the Deve Cotah Party. I hope we shall soon meet; & then whether the King joyns or not we shall be able to make our march good any where, I am Gentlemen, your most obedient humble Servant

Tritchenopoly
the 22d. May 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

I march at two o'Clock to morrow Morning.

The President lays before the Board the following Letter from Mr. Palk.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Hoñble Sir

I have been so much employ'd lately that I could scarce afford Time to write to you, but I have now the Pleasure of acquainting you that the King has conquer'd all his Scruples, & seems determin'd to come to no Accomodation with the Enemy in spite of Consequences which also he dreads. I have promis'd that we will protect his Country, & that when once We are join'd he has nothing to fear, he makes me even answerable for our Success & says his whole Dependance is now upon the English, the Arrival of our Europe Ships & our great Expectations from thence & Bombay with Assurances that Reinforcements shall be sent from Madrass the moment they arrive, & Mahauphoos Cawn's Junction, are Arguments which I have not failed to make use of, & on their Performance the Continuance of our Friendship here depends. The Enemy after entring the Woods with their whole Force, one Eighteen Pounder, & two twelves, plundering burning & destroying Tondamous Country, & raising their Siege of Podicota his Capital, return'd to Killcota a Tanjorine Fort, near Eremiserum, which surrender'd in one Day, from thence they march'd to Coillady, & invested that also, & as the Defences are already destroy'd We are very apprehensive it will not hold out till the Major's Arrival. This is a Place of no small Consequence because it commands the Bank of the River. Gauderow with 2000 Horse & 1000 Foot is at Trincatapully where We hope he will Soon be join'd by the Major, who arriv'd at Kirinoor the 23 & is unluckily halted at that Place yesterday & to Day, but as some of our Expresses from the King & me, must have reached Him last Night or this Morning, I expect that he will march on with all possible speed. Captn. Pigou wrote me last Night from Shaw Cotah, a Fort near Comberconam that the Enemy had made their Appearance in his Rear, on which he thought proper to march to that Place, but that on receiving my Letter wherein I told him that an Escort of Horse was order'd to attend Him, He promises to continue his March this Day. I have advis'd him to alter his Route, notwithstanding the Major's Order, & come immediately to this Place, which is more safe as well as more convenient for his joining the Major. I have now done all that was requir'd of me & indeed much more than ever I expected. If it may be done without any great Inconvenience to myself (for really this Country is much too hot for my Constitution) I will wait till I may expect an Answer to this Letter & then you can have no objection to my returning, I am only sorry that in so long a Time Nobody has been sent to me for it is highly necessary somebody should continue here. I am Hoñble Sir Your most Obedient &ca.

Tanjore the
25th. May 1754 8 P.M. R. PALK.

As Mr. Palk complains of want of Health & presses for leave to come in Agreed that Mr. Andrew Newton be order'd to proceed to Tanjore as soon as possible & that Mr. Palk be desir'd to continue there a little longer untill the King has enter'd more heartily into our Measures in the mean Time it will be a great advantage to Mr. Newton to be introduc'd at that Court by Mr. Palk & have the benefit of his Advice before he leaves him in Charge of the Negociation there.

[3RD.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

Mr. Hopkins in a Letter read this Day advising that Captn. Innis is so much indispos'd as to keep his Room & therefore in no Condition to go to Camp, & Captn. Pascal being represented in good Health Agreed that Captn. Innis remain at Deve Cotah & that Captain Pascal proceed to Camp.

Captain Campbell at Chingalaput writes that the Enemy have taken Utrimalour but the Garrison were suffer'd to march to Conjeeveram with their Arms, that the main Body of the Enemy are now gone to invest Trivatore & their Horse are divided into small Partys ravaging the whole Country, without opposition & some of them have taken the Route of Vendalour & the Mount.

Ordered, that the Commissary examine into the Accounts of the several Officers in the out Garrisons and on Detachment and report to the Board whether any & what superfluous Monthly Expences are Charged.

Lieutenant Preston at Arcot writes that Abdul Bob Cawn gives himself no concern about that Garrison nor will furnish a Grain of Chunam for repairing it altho the bad Consequences of its present Condition have been frequently represented to him.

The President is desir'd to write to Abdul Bob Cawn on that Subject.

Wasdava Punt Vackeel or Spy in Salabad Jings Camp writes that the Army is now encamp'd ten or fifteen Coases from Nermala and it is not yet determin'd whether the Quarters will be at Golconda or Aurungabad, that it is reported Balazerow had threaten'd the Mysoreans with an Attack but accomodated Matters with them for Sixteen Lacks of Rupees, that Salabad Jung is greatly distress'd for Money & tho' he owes the Savacars a considerable Sum he is still pressing them for more. that Salabad Jung has receiv'd a Saned from the Mogul for the Government of Decan. of which he had procur'd a Copy & sends it enclos'd.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.

JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

WEDNESDAY THE 5TH.

AT A CONSULTATION
Present.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM — HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH — JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER
MR. WYNCH *absent.*

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

No. 50. Honble Sir & Sirs

My last was on the 22d. Instant Advising you of my intended March the next Day, which I began at two in the morning on the 23d, & pursued till my Arrival here on the 28th. & then receiv'd your two favours of the 19th. & 22d. The Day before I set out the Enemy's Detachment (which I inform'd you was gone in Tondimans Country) often [*sic*] having pillag'd & burnt everything they came near, return'd by the borders of the Tanjore Country; & in their way took Killecotah, then laid siege to Coillady, which was as easily carried. The King of Tanjore alarm'd at these Acts of

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——— [5TH.]

Hostility ; sent a Body of Horse to Trickatapully (under the Command of Gauderow) who suffer'd themselves to be surpriz'd, & in Endeavouring to make their way thro' the Enemy lost about 400 of their People The Enemy rais'd a Battery against the Place, but on hearing of our Approach return'd to Serringham. On my Arrival here I found the King as We could wish him for our Interest. Frighten'd with the Enemy's Invasion, & willing on his Part to exert himself, If We would on ours ; & I believe convinc'd that neither Men nor Money should be spared. Never Gentn. did Affairs appear more in our favour then at present, If We chuse to pursue Vigorous Measures. you seem of the same Opinion ; & tho there are some Hopes of a Peace, yet you must be convinc'd the best Method to secure it, & have it with Advantage would be to humble the Enemy, to make them listen to Reason. Money then must be given, & not sparingly ; & if it is properly apply'd, Troops are not wanting. If you chuse to follow this Method I must reccomend to you a speedy Junction of all your Force, which may be effected after this manner. When I heard of the Reinforcement from Bombay I intended to have wrote you they might be sent for from thence to Madrass, & there joind with the Recruits lately come over. the whole form'd in a Body & sent to join Mahauphoos Cawn that would effectually put that Party out of Danger. & if you are willing to lend him the Money he wants, he can have no more Excuse for his Delays. & I can assure you upon his coming up greatly depends the vigorous Measures of this Court & entering warmly & throughly in our Interest. By that junction & what We daily expect from Europe, we shall be able to act offensively, & I hope with Success against the Enemy, but as I find by a Letter from Mr. Hopkins that the Part of the Bombay Detachment which is arriv'd is order'd to Deve Cotah, & must be there before you can countermand it, let the Party to meet Mahauphoos Cawn be form'd in this manner. The Remainder of the Bombay Detachmt. when arriv'd to stay at St. Davids & as you have order'd all Europe ships to touch there let the first that arrives with Recruits take these People on Board, & proceed for Fort St. George. they join'd with Recruits already come, will form a good Body, & if Captn. Gaupp is sufficiently recover'd, he may have the Command, or else Captn. Charles Campbell. & let them joyn & bring up Mahauphoos Cawn. I mention those two Gentlemen, as it will be proper to have somebody at the Head, who has had experience in the Country & knows the People. If Captn. Gaupp is not well enough he may supply the Place of Captn. Campbell at Chingalaput. It is now Gentn. at your Option to follow that Plan, or any other (with Vigour) that you please or if you are inclin'd to pursue ye Treaty with the Mayasore ; I beg you will be satisfy'd with my Reasons already given, for not chusing to negotiate. If therefore Delays (as you say) are Dangerous It will be proper for you to make a speedy Choice of some one for that Buissness [*sic*] Coll. Scotts Death has given me sensible Concern, what has happen'd about his coming to my Relief must now drop I hope with you some other Means may be found to procure me rest let me entreat of you Gentn. not to send up any more considerable Detachments without a Surgeon. they are liable to meet with Accidents, & in such a Case to be left quite destitute of Assistance will alienate much the Affection of your Soldiers : who will imagine that such Neglects proceed from an Indifference about their Concerns, & from those People who ought to take care of them which cannot easily be forgiven. In this last Party (which has join'd me ;) two Men were absolutely lost on the Road for want of Medicines, or any Body to administer them. I have the pleasure to inform you that Captn. Polier & Howes are so much recover'd as to have march'd with me, & stay in the Field. the other Gentlemen were left in a fair way of recovery. I shall reccommend it to the Officers under my Care not to deal in Politicks ; you will please to take the same Care of the Gentlemen in the Civil Way. the News you sent me in Cypher was known all over the Camp, before I receiv'd your Letter. that peice [*sic*] of Intelligence must have come from the Settlements. I am Gentlemen Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Camp near Tanjore
Ye 31st. May 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

[5TH.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

The President lays before the Board the following Letter from Mr. Palk at Tanjore.

To the Honoble Thos. Saunders Esqr.

Honble Sir

My last was of the 25th, the Day on which Gauderow very unwisely suffer'd Himself to be surrounded by the Enemy near Trikatapully, & in forcing his Way through them back to this Place, lost about 500 Horse, Coillady is taken & demolish'd, & what is of much Worse Consequence, the Dam which convey'd part of the Coleron into this Country is broken down, & the greater Part of the Enemy return'd to Serringham ; Captn. Pigou arriv'd the 26th. & join'd the Major at this Place, the 28th. when the King came out to receive him & the Nabob, with Promises of a speedy junction & Performance afterwards, Monajee is not yet reestablish'd, but We expect it will be done immediately in full form, & more Force collected, what with the late Accident & their discharging so many. It is but small at present but if the King now acts with Vigour as We expect he will, Monajee can soon recruit his Army. I receiv'd your Favour of the 19th yesterday, I hope there will be no necessity for any Present, We are endeavouring to lessen that Gentn's. Credit with his Master, & We do not despair of succeeding. What you desire in regard to Treaty without coming to the Point of Trichinopoly, I have propos'd before, but found Him very averse to any Measures of that sort, He is sufficiently persuaded that his own safety depends on Trichenopoly, tho he has not taken the proper Precautions to preserve it. I am with Respect Sir Your most Obedient Servant.

Camp near Tanjour
the 30th. May 1754. Robt. Palk.

As the Major still lays a great Stress on the Junction of Mauphoos Cawn's Troops which is represented as a Main Point for fixing the King of Tanjore in our Measures, it is agreed that the Major's Plan be pursued & that Mauphoos Cawn be acquainted that if he will march to reinforce the Army We will send a large Detachment of European Troops to join him at Conjeveram & to remove as much as possible all Evasions on his Arrival at Deve Cotah We promise to pay a Lack of Rupees to his Agents at St. David towards discharging the Arrears due to his Troops.

Agreed that the Reinforcement receiv'd from Bombay & Tellicherry by the Stafford be held in Readyness to march, that the Detachment sent from hence to Deve Cotah on the St. George be order'd back again on the same Ship, & that the Gentlemen at Fort St. David be directed to send us immediately a Detachment of Captn. Zieglars Company which were intended for Deve Cotah but drove back in two Boats to St. David, & when these arrive that they be added to the abovemention'd Bombay Detachment to join Mauphoos Cawn at Conjeveram in case he accepts of the Proposal, but in regard to the Recruits from Europe it is agreed that they be landed at Fort St. David in Case the Ships should touch there as they can be of no Service till they are Disciplin'd & in case they should be then wanted this way it will be much easier to transport them hither than to convey them to the Southward from hence against Wind & Current.

As Major Lawrence absolutely declines making the Proposals to the Dalloway and thinks that if the aforemention'd Measures should induce Mauphoos Cawn to march his junction will put a good Face on our Affairs and contribute much to bring the Dalloway to Terms it is agreed that the intended Negociation with the Dallaway be suspended for the present untill we see the Effect of the Proposals to Mauphooz Cawn.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Captain Roderick Forbes of the Bombay Detachment representing that he was order'd by the President & Council of Bombay to incorporate in his Company one hundred Topasses from Tellicherry & Fifty from Anjengo when they arrive which he requests Permission to

——*FORT ST· GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*—— [5TH·]

do, he also desires that the Pay, Batta, & Cloathing of the whole Detachment during their Stay under this Presidency may be put upon the same footing as the Military on this Establishment which will prevent Murmurs that might otherwise arise, he also represents that the Arms of the Tellicherry Detachment are in a very bad Condition & therefore requests they may be changed, and as the Number of Men in his Company may make an Assistant necessary he requests an Adjutant may be appointed.

Agreed that the Tellicherry Topasses be incorporated with Captn· Forbes's Company and also those from Anjengo when they arrive, that the whole Detachment be put upon the same footing as our Military, that the Tellicherry Arms be exchang'd & repair'd, & that Captn· Forbes be permitted to recommend one of his own Company to be Adjutant.

THOS SAUNDERS.
CHAS· BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.

JOHN SMITH.
CHS· BOURCHIER.

In Consequence of the Resolution in last Consultation, sent the following Letters 5TH·
to Fort St· David & Deve Cotah Vizt·

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR· DEPUTY GOVERNOUR
&cA· COUNCIL OF FORT ST· DAVID.

Gentlemen

Advices this Day receiv'd from Major Lawrence have determin'd us to detain here the Detachment brought us from Bombay in the Stafford ; In case the St· George should not have pass'd your Port when you receive this, give the Commander Orders to return here directly with the Detachment he has on board him & in Case you should not have yet sent to Deve Cotah the Men belonging to Captn· Zieglar's Company which were drove back to St· David in two Boats, Embark them likewise on the St· George to be brought hither ; with one Lieutenant of that Company all these We intend to form into one Body to join Mauphis Cawn at Conjeveram & proceed from thence together to the Army ; Captain Forbes just arriv'd from Bombay will have the Command of this Party as being the oldest Captain but We should be glad of a good Officer for him to advise with, who has had some Experience of the Enemy in this Country Major Lawrence recommends Captn· Gaupp if he is in a Condition to undertake it & We approve of his Choice, but if his Health should not permit him, We shall order Captn· Charles Campbell on his Expedition & appoint Captn· Gaupp to take the Command in Chingalaput so that in either Case he must take his Passage hither on the St· George. In case she should have pass'd your Port we send Instructions to Mr· Hopkins which are enclos'd for your Perusal & to be forward [*sic*] with Expedition. There are 20 Chests of Arms on board the St· George for Deve Cotah, if you dispatch her immediately to us land the Arms & forward them by the first opportunity. We are Gentlemen, Your Affectionate Friends and Servants THOS· SAUNDERS, CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEXR WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS· BOURCHIER.

Fort St· George
the 5th· June 1754.

To Mr· CHARLES HOPKINS CHIEF OF DEVE COTAH.

Sir

The St· George was dispatch'd from hence the 31st· Ulto· with a Detachment, & Captn· Ziegler & some Officers &ca· being drove to Sadrass We order'd the Commander to call there to take them in & proceed to you touching in the way at Fort

[5TH·] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

St· David some Advices from Major Lawrence oblige us to change [*sic*] our Measures & We have therefore wrote to the Gentlemen at St· David to send Captn· Robinson immediately back hither, with the Detachment sent from hence & also the Men belonging to Captn· Zieglar who were drove back to St· David in two Boats, with a Lieutenant of that Company but in Case those Men should have been already sent you & that the St· George should be gone from St· David in that Case Captn· Zieglar & his Company are to remain at Deve Cotah & you are to return the St· George to us with the whole Detachment sent on her from hence order the Commander to touch at Fort St· David to give Captain Gaup a Passage hither, the last mention'd Party We shall add to a Reinforcement receiv'd two Days ago from Bombay on the Stafford & send the whole to Join Mahauphooz Cawn at Conjeveram that they may march together to reinforce the Major. We are Sir Your Affecte· Friends.

Fort St· George
5th : June 1754

THOS· SAUNDERS &C COUNCIL

AT A CONSULTATION.

Present

MONDAY THE 10TH

THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR· GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

General Letter from Major Lawrence & one from Mr· Palk to the President read as follow.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR· PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA· COUNCIL OF FORT ST· GEORGE.

No. 51. Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Favours of the 23d· & 26th· May. Poniapah is excuted & in as publick a manner as possible, to deter others from falling unto the same Errors. As to Peremrauze he was Guilty, but not equally with the others, & seemed to have been the tool of a more cunning Villain. I did not intend to let him go free, he has been imprison'd, & in Irons ever since his Examination & there shall remain as to the Fine it may be levyed as you think proper. My former Letters will have acquainted you with my March, which was the only expedient I had left. I refer you to Mr· Palk for the Success of yesterday in his Negociation & I make no Doubt but this Change of Ministry will produce much in our favour. In my last, Gentlemen, I said that never Affairs appear'd to me in so favourable a Way (so far from thinking them desperate) provided you would exert yourselves. I should be sorry you could imagine my desire for a Relief, proceeded from that Cause. very far from it; Would my Health permit me, I wou'd never desire to leave the Field, While there remain'd an Enemy against us in it. What I mean could only be understood in Relation to my particular Situation, which I believe you will allow, was not the most Elligible : Except there had been no remedy for it, but I always thought there was, & pointed out also what I thought were the Means to procure it. Your being desirous to have me keep the Field is needless; for I am as willing to do it, while I think I am capable of it, as you can be to wish it; As you do me the Honour to say. But then Gentlemen is it not your Duty to see me supported in that Command as I ought I mention this in relation to a private Letter wrote a great while ago to the Governour concerning Captn· Donald Campbell, to which he has never thought proper to answer. Had I been unreasonable in my Complaint, it might have been told me, but if what I ask'd was my Right, & my due; Why not Justice done me for the Neglect [*sic*]. If the Govr· will please to shew my Letter you Gentlemen may be Judges. I have had an Account from Mr· Hopkins which gives me much Uneasiness that some of the Boats with part of the Bombay Detachment are missing

which were sent from S^{t}. Davids. To remedy that Inconvenience for the future (If you dont approve of my last propos'd Scheme) The Sloop which has orders to stop the Shipping at S^{t}. Davids, may by another Order make them land their Troops at Deve Cotah, as also all the spare Arms they can give us, there are many wanted as well for the Garrison of Trichenopoly as for the Field. I think this Method would save some trouble, & risque. The Men may be disciplind with me, or at Deve Cotah. As to what you want me to do in relation to the Dollaway. the Proposals may just as well be made from you as me; & the Answer will be full as Satisfactory. The King's Aversion to Ramah Naigue is so strongly grounded as not to be remov'd. The Knowledge of his being here is even disagreeable. On that Account therefore I think him not fit to be employ'd by me & besides I do not think he has Capacity for the Employment; I therefore have order'd him back, & I beg you will look for somebody else Captn. Polier & Howes, with Docter Boswell have applied for leave to go down to the Settlements for a while to try the change of Air which I could not refuse them. I am Gentlemen Your most obedient & most humble Servant

June the 5th. 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}.

Honble Sir

I have your Favour of the 23^{d}. & 24th. May acknowledging the Receipt of all my Letters except the 19th. 25th. 30th. Every thing here looks very well great offers are making to Manojee but he refuses by our Advice to take the Command unless Sucojee & some of his Party are remov'd. We are so well convinc'd of the Necessity of this change of Ministry, that the Major has signify'd to the King his Resolution not to join his Forces without it, many Difficulties are started & Monajees Demands are represented to be most extravagant, but I believe they must be comply'd with; We have pointed out, in very plain Terms, that the late Accidents have only been the natural Consequence of the imprudent Conduct which the King has pursued, & that it must still continue, unless Succojee Naik, whose Principles are too well known, be remov'd. When Monajee is reinstated we may depend on their utmost Efforts, & if Mahauphooz Cawn joins, a Method may also be found out to keep his Forces, for these People begin to see the Necessity of Vigorous Measures; I have deliver'd your Letter to the King, his Answer shall be sent by another Hircara. Captn. Pigou's Detachm^{t}. arriv'd very opportunely. Tondamon sends frequently Provisions into Trichinopoly. He is closely press'd by the Moravar but the Major intends to do Him all the Service in his Power, The Enemy are incamp'd about Killicota & Eremiserum, part of Morarow's Army continues on the other Side of the Coleron I am with Respect Honble Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant

Tanjour the
4th. June 1754. ROB^{T}. PALK.

Sir,

After writing the foregoing the King sent for us, we waited some time for the lucky Hour, when Monajee was introduc'd & reestablished. Succojee did not make his appearance, which gives us to hope the Business is done effectually. The King will send the Recruits, but he desires 1000 good Arms may be purchased for him, & a Gun that fires frequently from once Loading; the Bill for Pag^{s}. 5000, is accepted, & the Additional Cypher receiv'd. I am, Honble Sir; Your most obed^{t}. ROBERT PALK.

Tanjour the
5th. June 1754.

[10th·] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

The President also lays before the Board a Letter from Captn· Kilpatrick at Trichinopoly desiring to be reliev'd in that Command on Major Lawrence's return there with the Army as he intends to go to Europe in September.

Letters in Answer to the Major's & Mr· Palks enter'd in last Consultation having been prepar'd some Additions are now made in Consequence of those just receiv'd & read, & the following Letters are now sign'd Vizt·

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr· Commander in Chief of all the Company's Forces in India.

No. 11. Sir

Our last was dated the 26th· Ultimo & your two Letters No· 49 & 50 are receiv'd & now to be answer'd.

Our Reasons for ordering all the Reinforcemts· We could collect at Deve Cotah in Order to Join you were that the Army appear'd to us to be so much weaken'd as to render a speedy Succour necessary, the Delays Excuses & Evasions of Mahauphoos Cawn, & his Brother Abdul Bob give us good Grounds to imagine that the assisting the Nabob is what they have very little at Heart, & therefore we conceiv'd it would have expos'd you too much & too long to the attempts of the Enemy's superiour Force had We subjected these Troops to Mahauphoos Cawn's Pleasure however as you recommend that Plan, we changed our Measures immediately on the receipt of your Letter No· 50. We had some Days before dispatch'd the Sr· George to Fort St· David & Deve Cotah with upwards of Sixty Men these We order'd to be return'd Us on the same Ship, & We have detain'd a Detachment of a, b, l, r, s, q, (fifty) 140 (Europeans) f, g, q, q, s, (one hundred) 145 (Topasses) & a, b, m, r, q, (sixty) 147. 149 (Seapoys) which arriv'd here a few Days ago from Bombay on the Stafford, We hear the Protector is arriv'd at St· David with a Reinforcement from Bombay; which We have also orderd up hither, to these We add as many Veterans of this Garrison as can be safely spared & replace them with new Recruits from Europe; all these with any other Reinforcements, that may arrive in Time from Bombay We shall send to Join Mahauphoos Cawn at Conjeveram in case he will promise to march immediately upon their junction, the Presidt· has wrote to him on the Subject, & promis'd that on his Arrival at Deve Cotah we will pay a Lack of Rupees to any Agents he may appoint at Fort St· David, no Answer is yet receiv'd from him, but whatever may be the result shall be immediately communicated to you. We are persuaded the Dallaway would gladly agree to Vencatrow's Proposals but since you absolutely decline offering them to him We have no Choice, but must wait untill the Junction of the Reinforcements with you which We acknowledge must give great Weight to our Negociations. We have consider'd that new Recruits are often of greater Prejudice than Service untill properly trained We have therefore continued our Orders to Fort St. David to land them from such Europe Ships as may touch there & discipline them, if We should have Occasion for them this Way it will be much easier to bring them hither than send them from hence to the Southward.

Captn· Kilpatrick has acquainted the President of his Intentions to resign & return to Europe in September & therefore Requests to be reliev'd on your return to Trichenopoly, he has our Consent, & We leave it to you to supply his Place with whom you shall think proper, when the Time approaches for his Departure. We have wrote for Captn· Gaupp to come up hither & We shall appoint him to go with Captn· Forbes who as oldest Officer must Command the Party to join Mahauphoos Cawn or if Captn· Gaupp's Health should not permit him We shall Order Captn· Campbell on that Expedition & Captn· Gaupp to Chingalaput.

The 8th· & 9th· Instant arriv'd our Honble Masters Ship Triton & Onslow with a, b, o, m, r, (Eighty Six Recruits) our Cypher of the 19th· remains still in suspence, by the general Advices We may expect by all the China Ships about f, i, q, e, q, s, (300) Recruits & by the Coast & Bay Ships b, g, q, a, q, (100) Swiss besides what

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*—— [10TH.]

are intended for Bengal the Number of these last is not mention'd. Enclos'd you will receive Copy of several Paragraphs of our Honble Masters Commands, We recommend it to your Consideration whether in Consequence of the 53d. we ought not to be still more desirous if possible to have Vencatrows Proposals tender'd to the Dalloway the President has acquainted us that he Proposes to write you seperately on the Subject of the 42d. Paragraph, such an Agreement & harmony as our Employers reccommend is what we have always had at Heart & We shall embrace every opportunity of cultivating it.

Mr. Bishop mention'd in the 49 Parag: is also appointed Superintendant of the Powder Works, the Company's intentions with Respect to his Lieutenancy appear dark. We should be glad of your Opinion; what is meant by *first* Lieutenant of the *Military*. We are Sir your most obedient Servants.

Since closing the above, your Letter of the 5th. is come to hand, as well as Mr. Palks of the same Date, the Success of his Negociation gives us great Pleasure, We shall exert ourselves in every Respect to the utmost of our Abilitys. Tho' our Affairs may not be desperate but afford a much more favourable Prospect than a few Weeks ago yet We think the main Point of Peace should be still pursued, a favourable Turn is certainly the properest Time to make Terms, & We cannot help thinking those offer'd by Vencatrow worth our Notice, even should our Cypher of the 19th. take Place what a prodigious Advantage will it be to have the whole Debt secure this is no trifling Consideration We shall therefore do our utmost to hasten our Reinforcement to Mauphoos Cawn & his Junction with you & in the mean time consider of a proper Method to make the Overtures to the Dalloway. We shall give Orders for the Sloop you mention to direct any Europe Ships she can speak with to land their Arms & Military at Deve Cotah & if they should fail We shall take the first opportunity of supplying you with Arms from hence. Some other Particulars in your Letter shall be answer'd in our next. The Protector is just come into the Road with b, l, a, p, (fifty nine) 140. 144. (Europeans) and b, h, a, q, e, q, (two hundred) 147 (Seapoys) from Bombay, a, k, e, q, (forty) Men of Captn. Zieglars Company from St. David & the Detachment which was intended for Deve Cotah by the St. George, we wait now only for Mahauphis Cawn's Answer for the Party to move.

The Essex is just arriv'd from Europe with i, s, q, r, (thirty) Recruits & k, t, (four) Officers. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants. THOMAS SAUNDERS. CHAS. BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
10th. June 1754.

To THE REVEREND MR. ROBERT PALK.

Sir

The President has communicated to Us your Letters of the 25th, & 30th May by which We have the Pleasure to observe a Change in the King's Measures which promises well to our Cause the Arrival of the Bombay Reinforcements We hope will give new life to it & determine him to act with Vigour, the Promises you made him of our protection shall be perform'd to the utmost of our Power, but as Mahauphoos Cawn's Forces are not at our disposal We cannot answer for their Junction, indeed if We may judge of the future by the past, little is to be expected from such supine Wretches, who by an unparallel'd infatuation have remain'd inactive near Arcot whilst the Enemy have been ravaging the Country around, what can be expected from such Behaviour? by a Letter We now write the Major you will be inform'd what fresh Proposals We have made to get those Troops to the Army, if they still satrt new Difficultys We know no Remedy.

[10TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

We shall be glad to hear of Monojee's being confirm'd in the Command and of an Abatement of Power & influence in a certain Minister which We shall look upon a great Step towards fixing the King in our Interest.

As you gave us Reason in your Letter of the 25th. to fear your Health would not permit you to stay much longer at Tanjour We immediately order'd Mr. Newton to proceed thither, but as he may not be thoroughly acquainted with the Temper & Disposition of that Court We hope you will be able to remain there a little longer till the King has enter'd heartily into our Measures or at least till Mr. Newton may be fully instructed in the Nature of his Commission your Advice & Assistance will go a great Way towards Qualifying him for this Trust.

For further Particulars relating to publick Affairs we refer you to our Letter to Major Lawrence & are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants.

Fort St. George
10th. June 1754.

Your Letter of the 5th. is this Instant receiv'd & gives us infinite Pleasure. Succojee's disgrace is a great Stroke as well as Monajee's appointment to the Command & We are oblig'd to you for the part you have had in procuring this Change, We shall do all in our Power to reap every Advantage that may arise from it. acquaint the King we shall use our Endeavours to procure the Arms he wants out of our expected Shipping. We are Sir, Your most Obedt. Servants THOS. SAUNDERS. CHAS. BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. AR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Captain Campbell at Chingalaput writes that straggling Partys of the Enemy's Horse still continue to infest & plunder the Villages thereabout whilst he is unable for want of Horse to prevent it, that Mahauphoos Cawn has been advis'd of it but instead of coming to the protection of the Country has halted at Callowar a little way from Arcot & pretends that the Enemy's Strength is too Superiour consisting, as he says of 2000 Horse & 2000 Seapoys with some Europeans & Guns altho it is well known they have not half that Number, he adds that he is inform'd two hundred Horse march'd towards the Mount the 6th Instant.

Ensign Paccard advises that Mauphoos Cawn march'd as far as Areanie & halted there in expectation of receiving the Succours & Supplys Abdul Bob Cawn promis'd him which were One Thousand Horse, One Thousand Foot and a Lack of Rupees but after waiting four Days without any probability of receiving any part of these Troops & supply Mahauphoos Cawn was determin'd to march as the next Day being the 6th. Instant to a place call'd Papantangolee & wait there a few Days longer for his Brother & then proceed to Trivatore Outrimalore, Salwach &ca to drive the Enemy from thence.

Captn. Gaupp being arriv'd in the Protector this Day from Fort St. David & representing that he is not Sufficiently recover'd of a Wound in his Heel, to undertake so long & fatiguing a March as that with the Party to join Mauphoos Cawn it is agreed that Captn. Charles Campbell now at Chingalaput be order'd on this Expedition & that Captn. Gaupp relieve him in the Command of that Fort.

Agreed that as many of the Veterans as can be safely spar'd from this Garrison be added to the Detachment intended to join Mahauphoos Cawn & that their Places be supply'd by the new Recruits from Europe.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

MONDAY the 17TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNR. &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

No. 53.

My Health I find by dayly Experience is so little to be depended on, that my persisting to stay in the Field, I can neither Answer to my self, nor my Honble Masters; as I do not find I am in a Condition to acquit Myself of my Charge. I have long struggled with my Constitution, out of a real Desire, & Zeal to serve the Publick; & you Gentlemen seem to be Conscious of it & to think I stand in need of some Respite. It is therefore my Duty to point out which way I think you may procure me a Relief. I hope it may meet with your Approbation, and make the Loss (you do me the Honour to think) I should be to the Army, not felt; by leaving the Command to a Person, that in my Opinion has skill, Conduct, Experience, & Bravery sufficient to be at the head of it.

The Gentleman I would reccommend is Captn. Killpatrick; well known to us all. he has apply'd for leave to go home, but I believe were the Command offer'd him he would stay. but I must also acquaint you Gentlemen he cannot accept of it, unless you will please to give him Rank as a Major. & indeed I think he judges right, & as a thing absolutely necessary for the well being of the Service. You have known once by Experience the Effects of a Commander at the Head of an Army with many of equal Stations to him; how little good was then done: & how vexatious the Service, by the little Jealousies, disagreements, & heart Burnings amongst the Officers; & all proceeding from that Cause, which ever will remain: unless a Person of Superiour Rank Commands. It may be objected the dayly Expectations of a Major from Europe that is uncertain for there was none even appointed when the last Ships came away. But suppose there is the Precariousness of a mans life in time of Service, the Chance of the Climate with a stranger (of which lately you have had a Melancholly Instance) the possibility of having a Second Corps of Troops to Command; all these Considerations will not make a third Major, A Burthen or a needless Precaution.

As to the Expence let Captn. Kilpatrick keep his Company. The Additional Pay to make up the common Salary will be but a Trifle; & I am sure what he will little regard. Do you please to appoint him Major on the Spot, write to the Honble Compy, & if they chuse to approve of your Appointment, they will send him his Commission, & settle his Salary.

The only Objection that can be made is; that it will be giving him preferment over two older Officers Captn. Campbell, & Captn. Gardiner. But in an Affair of this Consequence the publick Good, & the Capacity of the Person to be employ'd must first be consider'd. Private Disappointments then cannot be deem'd an Injustice. Neither of the Gentlemen in my Opinion are equal to the Task. one entirely unfitt on Account of his Health, & I dare say will not think himself ill used. As for the Other he has neither Judgment, clearness, nor the Art of making himself belov'd by either Officers or Men. I may mention these faults; as they are not a Reproach, being constitutional Errors, & not in our Power where Nature has not given us Talents to rectify or amend them. on the Contrary the Gentleman I reccommend, is equally belov'd by all the Army; & has strong natural good Sense, improv'd by

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

[17TH.] Experience, with a Polite Behaviour. I'll say Nothing of his Services & Constant attendance to his Duty. let them speak for themselves, & I will leave you to judge, If he merits Encouragement; & that Affairs require such an Officer.

I beg Gentlemen you will take this into your serious Consideration, & be speedy in your Resolves. I shall wait with impatience for your Answer, as every Minutes Delay is of Consequence to me. & I am resolv'd not to stay with the Army; for it is not in my Power. another thing I can assure you of; that there may be no time lost in Writing backwards or forwards. Captn. Killpatrick will not Command if he has not Rank as Major on his Joyning the Army. let thatbe settled & every thing else will be Easy.

As I think this the most conducive thing to your Interest, I heartily wish it may meet with your Approbation. I am, Gentlemen, Your most obedient humble Servant

Camp near Tanjour
8th. June 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

Major Lawrence's Reccommendation of Captn. Kilpatrick to succeed him in the Command of the Army & to be raised to the Rank of a Major being consider'd & debated, & the Members of the Board differing in their Opinions on the Question put, the President & Mr. Boddam are of Opinion that Captain Donald Campbell ought not to be superceeded & therefore are against promoting Captn. Kilpatrick to the Rank of a Major, & putting him at the Head of the Army. But Messrs. Powney, Wynch, Smith & Bourchier, being of the Major's Sentiments with Respect to Captn. Campbell & Killpatrick, which being a Majority in favour of the latter it is

Resolv'd that Major Lawrence's [health ?] being so precarious as to render his stay with the Army uncertain & as very dangerous Consequences might ensue should it be left without a Leader That a Brevet be offer'd to Captn. James Killpatrick appointing him to act as Major & in case he shou'd accept of it that he be then invested with the Command of the Army in the absence of Major Lawrence.

Agreed that Major Lawrence be acquainted with this Resolution & that Captn. Kilpatrick be wrote to on the Subject.

The Camp & Country Correspondence read

Letter from Mr. Maunsell with a general Return of the Forces in the Field.

Letters from the Nabob & King of Tanjore advising the March of the Army to Tanjour & pressing for a large Reinforcement. The King promises to act vigorously.

Letters from Mahauphoos Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn with many pretences & Excuses for not marching the latter says he has supply'd the former with Money but superiour Force of the Enemy's lying in the Way has prevented his moving, on the other hand Mahauphoos Cawn denies receiving any Money & says Abdul Bob Cawn has not been able to raise any on which Account & a large Body of the Enemy at Trivatore he has been detain'd, but promises to march on the junction of our intended Reinforcement & requests that the Lack of Rupees which We have offer'd to pay to his Agents at St. David on his Arrival at Deve Cotah, may be paid here or at least half to discharge some of the Arrears of his Troops, without which they will refuse to stir.

Agreed that half a Lack be advanc'd here, & the other at Fort St. David on his Arrival at Deve Cotah.

Ensign Paccard writes from Utrimaloor that the Enemy having taken Possession of that Place Mahauphoos Cawn Judged it necessary to drive them from thence & accordingly march'd thither accompany'd by his (Ensign Paccard's) Party, & after a whole Days firing the Enemy thought proper to abandon the Place in the Night & made their Escape which struck such a Pannick into the Main Body which lay encamped near Wandewash that they immediately retreated to Gingy. he Adds that

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*—— [17TH.]

he has suffer'd but little in this Action having lost only one Gunner & one Seapoy killed, & three Europeans & four Seapoys Wounded. That as soon as Mahauphoos Cawn has settled Affairs at that Place he promises to march to Conjeveram where Abdul Bob Cawn is to meet him.

Letter from Lieutenant Achilles Preston at Arcot enclosing an Indent for Stores for the use of that Garrison which he says Abdul Bob Cawn still neglects.

Another Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn is also read advising the Death of the Killidar of Poonemalee whereby the Jaqueer which he possess'd in that Country reverts to the Circar, & should be seized on.

In the Grant made to the Company of the Ponamalee Country the Killidarship of the Fort is reserv'd to the Moors Government to this Killedarship a Jaqueer is always annexed of the yearly Value of about three Thousand Pagodas to enable the Killedar to keep on Foot such a force as may be necessary for the Protection of the Country, but this is seldom or never done, the Board are of Opinion that it would be much to the Companys Advantage were the Killedarship & Jaqueer added to their Phirmaund for the Country it is therefore Agreed that Application be made to the Nabob for the same on promising to make a reasonable Allowance to the Widow of the late Killedar agreeable to the Custom of the Country & to maintain out of the Produce of the Jaqueer the same Number of Men & on the same Conditions as has been Customary.

Order'd that all the Officers arriv'd from Europe take the Field with the Detachment intended to Join Mahauphoos Cawn.

Agreed that Lieutenant Nelson be order'd up from Fort S^t. David & sent to Vizagapatam to do Duty in that Garrison.

M^r. Alex^r. Wynch reports that he has receiv'd ten Thousand (10,000) Rupees more of the Amuldar of Tripossore, making in all receiv'd thirty Thousand (30,000) Rupees on Account of the Lack which the Nabob has drawn on him for, in favour of the Company.

Agreed that five thousand Pagodas be remitted to Camp for the use of the Army as soon as Bills can be procured.

* I object to a Majors Commission being given Capt. Killpatrick first because tis contrary to the Military regulations to supercede an Officer and next that Capt. Campbell has behaved gallantly the Reasons given are frivulous and Groundless because if Capt. Campbell had a Major's Brevet the Army would not be without a Comm^r. and at the same time Major Lawrence whose ill state of health requires (and I think ought to have ease) would be relieved.

† I sign to this Consultation reserving the same objection I made in Council of giving Capt. Kilpatrick a Major's Brevet; so contrary in my Opinion to the Military regulations for promoting an Officer of Inferior Rank to the undoubted pretensions of Capt. Campbell, who's [*sic*] conduct and Bravery I never heard any ways call'd in Question.

* THO^S. SAUNDERS.
† CHA^S. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^R. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^S. BOURCHIER.

Sent the following General Letter to Captain James Kilpatrick at Trichenopoly Viz^t. 19.

To CAPT^N. JAMES KILPATRICK AT TRICHINOPOLY.

Sir

Major Lawrence having represented to us that the long fatigues of the Field have so greatly impair'd his Health that his continuance at the Head of the Army is render'd extreemly Precarious, it becomes necessary that an experienced Officer should

[19TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

be chosen to succeed him in that very important Charge, his Opinion & Reccommendation of you have had such weight that it has been resolv'd in Consultation to offer you a Major's Brevet & the Command of the Army which if you will accept, give us immediate Notice, & the proper Powers & Orders shall be sent You. We are, Sir, Your most Obed^{t}· Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY. A^{R}: WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort S^{t}· George
19th· June 1754.

21 Sent to M^{r}· Palk at Tanjore in a Letter from the Secretary two Bills for two thousand, two hundred Pagodas for the use of the Army.

TUESDAY THE 25TH. AT A CONSULTATION

Present.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}· GOV^{R}· PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEX^{R}· WYNCH JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows. also a Letter from M^{r}· Palk to the President.

No. 53. TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}· PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C^{A}· COUNCIL OF FORT S^{T}· GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I receiv'd with great Pleasure from M^{r}· Starke, an Account that the remainder of the Bombay Detachment, was arriv'd; & also of the intended Disposition of those Troops, with others; According to the Plan of Operations I had laid before you those Men of the first imbarkation from Bombay, that were already arriv'd at Deve Cotah, which were only five Boats out of the Nine that set out from S^{t}· Davids, I have order'd to Camp. As I see by an Extract of Letter from you, Gent: sent to M^{r}· Hopkins; it was your intention to leave Captn· Zeiglers whole Company at his Settlement, had they been there when the S^{t}· George might arrive, with the other Detachments sent from Madrass: which you have order'd back, on the receipt of my Letter. As I believe it may be necessary for me to make a Detachment, I have then order'd them few Men up, to make me as strong as possible without interfering with the Party for Mahauphoos Cawn.

I shall acquaint you more fully in a Day or two of my Intentions. as yet I cannot be determin'd, till We receive an Answer to a Message sent by the King to (Tondamans) 22, 11, 12, 14, 18's (Enemy.)

Monajee is at the Head of Affairs; raising more Troops & satisfying the old ones. The Method of doing business here is somewhat Dilatory but We must have Patience, & keep them Close at Work. Every thing else appears as much in our Favour as we could wish. I am Gentlemen your most Obed^{t}· & most hble Servt·

Camp near Tanjore
14th· June 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}·

Honble Sir

Monajee is reinstated & raising Troops with all possible Expedition; Succojee is laid aside & has not stirr'd from his House since I writ you last, the King promises

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*—— [25TH.]

that he will never more put it in his Power to injure the Nabob's Affairs ; Gauderow's Loss was much more than I mention'd, but the Accots. are already settled & paid : The Enemy are incamp'd to the Eastward & Westward of Trichenopoly threatning another Escalade which however We do not suspect they will put in practice Tondamons situation only gives us some Concern, but We hope some Method will soon be contriv'd to relieve him.

The Major was very Ill yesterday but he is better to Day, & very desirous of continuing in the Field if his Health will permitt him, but it cannot be depended on for three Days together, I hope I have also got rid of my Disorder, nothing but a return of it will induce me to leave this Place till the Army is march'd which cannot be immediately. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most obedient humble Servant.

Tanjore the
14th. June 1754. ROBERT PALK.

The Party intended to Join Mahauphoos having march'd this Morning for Marmelong where they are to halt & encamp untill all things necessary for the Expedition can be compleated ; Orderd that fourteen Thousand Rupees be advanc'd to Captains Roderick Forbes & Charles Campbell (the first Commanding the Bombay Detachment, the other, the Men belonging to this Establishment) as a Military Chest to defray the Expences of the Troops ; that Ensign Paccard be order'd to deliver over the Command of his Party to Captn. Charles Campbell on his arrival at Conjeveram & return hither himself & that Ensign Ogilvie belonging to that Detachment proceed to Chingalaput.

The Country Correspondence &ca. read.

Mahauphoos Cawn advises his Arrival at Conjeveram & that he is extreamly desirous of proceeding Trichenopoly, that he has often wrote to Abdul Bob Cawn for an Order on the Amuldars for repayment of the Lack We have promised to advance but he has not yet return'd any Answer.

Abdul Bob Cawn writes that he has actually advanc'd Mahauphoos Cawn two Lacks of Rupees notwithstanding which he still delays to march, that he (Abdul Bob Cawn) is therefore resolv'd to march himself with his Forces to Join the Nabob.

Letter from Murtas Ally Cawn acknowledging the Receipt of the Presidents' Letter wherein he desires to be inform'd of the Particulars of an Agreemt. between him & Abdul Bob Cawn to which he Answers that he is certain Abdul Bob Cawn has already communicated the Particulars but that notwithstanding he has sent them to his Vackeel to be represented to the Presidt.

As Murtas Ally Cawn has for some Time past omitted to Answer the President's Letters on this Subject & now artfully evades declaring the Terms of his agreement with Abdul Bob Cawn by referring to his Vackeel a Method often practis'd with these People when they would conceal the Truth. It is therefore agreed that Murtas Ally Cawn be acquainted that We consider this agreement as a Matter of such Consequence that a Verbal Account from his Vackeel is by no means Satisfactory & therefore We desire he will write it himself. Ensign Paccard writes that he really believes Mahauphoos Cawn is determin'd to march as soon as Join'd with the Party from hence, but Abdul Bob remains inactive at Arcot.

Captn. George Frederick Gaupp having relieved Captn. Charles Campbell in the Command at Chingalaput now transmitts an Acct. of the Remains of Stores with his Observations on the Fortifications & Repairs necessary to be made amongst the rest, the Glacis which was begun by Captn. Campbell is very Essential & therefore he is going on with it as Captn. Campbell had Orders to do so. which when compleated will make the Place defensible. the Counterscarp of the Ditch he also says is fallen into the Ditch, & there are two or three Breeches in the Wall. & for the better Defense of the Place he desires that three Gunners & six Lascars may be sent him.

[25th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1754.*——

Agreed that Captn. Gaupp be directed to go on with the Glacis & compleat that first & in the mean time prepare Estimates of the Charge of the other Repairs. Order'd that the Gunner & Lascars be sent according to his Request.

Agreed that Captain John Howes proceed to Arcot & take upon him the Command in that Garrison.

The Commissary Reports that he has receiv'd ten thousand (10,000) Rupees more being in all receiv'd forty thousand of the Amuldar of Tripossore on Acct. of the Lack he is to pay.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

Sent the following Letters to Major Lawrence & Mr. Palk.

27 To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDR.
IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

No. 12. We have receiv'd your Letters of the 5th. 8th. and 12. Instant No. 51. 52. 53.

Inclos'd is Copy of the President's Letter to you of the 5th. February concerning Captn Campbell "Captn. Campbell was dissatisfyed with Captain Kilpatrick's having "the Command at Trichenopoly but was answer'd We approv'd it, he was after- "wards desired to proceed to Camp but when he represented his long Services in the "Field, that every Officer should take their Turn & that he would lay down his "Commission. that we might send you as Many Officers as possible 'twas agreed in "Consultation to send Captain Gardner in his Stead this is what has passd in regard "to Captn. Campbell." our Intentions was [*sic*] to promote the good of the Service by sending as many Officers as possible at a juncture when they were so much wanted, he thinking himself entitled to the same Indulgence as Captn. Charles Campbell was determin'd to lay down his Commission. We rather chose he should remain at St. David than you should have an Officer Less.

Agreeable to what you wrote us concerning Captn. Kilpatrick We have made him an Offer of a Major's Brevet be assur'd We shall be glad to promote your Ease & are sorry to hear from Captns. Howes Polier & Dr. Boswell that his Wound was laid open again which may incapacitate him for the Field Duty.

Agreeable to what we wrote you we order'd Captn. Gaupp to proceed with the Detachment, the Effects of his Wounds render'd him incapable, he has therefore relieved Captn. Campbell at Chingalaput who commands the Madrass Troops as does Capt. Forbes those from Bombay. the following are the Regulations Mr. Bourchier &ca. Council's sentiments in regard to them Vizt. "In the Packet is a List of Officers "on this Establishment upon Command to your Presidency, who are to be promoted "as Vacancy's may happen according to the Rank therein placed, at the same time "We must observe to your Honour &ca. that We have given the Command of the "Seapoys now proceeding & those We intend you by the Montford to Captn. "Andrew Armstrong who has a Commission sign'd by us accordingly but nevertheless "this is not to be an Hindrance or prevention to his Rising on the Military Establish- "ment if Vacancies happen as above noticed. Should the Gentlemen at Tellicherry "and Anjengo send you any Topasses in Consequence of our Orders they are to be "incorporated in the Company which went from hence under the Command of "Captn. Forbes."

The Tellicherry Topasses are incorporated accordingly & to prevent any Murmurings or uneasiness We have put the whole Bombay Detachment upon the

same footing as the Military on our Establishment with respect to their Pay Cloathing and Batty, [*sic*] a Copy of the List of the Bombay Officers and their Rank above-mention'd is enclos'd.

The Detachment march'd off yesterday morning & halted at Marmalon; will decamp tomorrow & will be [we?] believe be at Conjeveram in three Days. Mahauphoos Cawn acceeded to the Proposals of one Lack but still intimates Abdul Bob Cawn has fail'd in his Promises which the other denies, neither of them seem inclin'd to go, but the Nabob's Vackeell gives us Room to believe that in case they should both decline that the Horse will proceed under the Command of the Jemmidars.

The Killedar of Poonemalee is dead according to Custom the Kille of the Fort devolves to the Government 'twill be greatly advantagious to the Company to have it annex'd to Poonemalee the President has wrote the Nabob please to enforce it.

The Ships for China are all safe arriv'd but bring no Confirmation of the Affair in agitation at home. We may hourly expect those for Coast & Bay. not a Ship arriv'd at Pondicherry yet & only two had been at the Cape.

Enclos'd are Copys of the President's Letters to the Nabob & King of Tanjore also a Bill of Exchange drawn by Gocaul Terwady upon Ramaisur Terwady at Tanjore for 3000 Pagodas which please to receive for the Use of the Army under your Command. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS, CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
27th. June 1754.

To MR. ROBERT PALK.

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letters of the 4th. & 14th. with a small Chit of the 5th.

It is with Pleasure I observe Succojee Naick is remov'd, Monajee in favour, & the King at least promising very fair to Join & act with Vigour though I must confess I am of Opinion his Majesty has been greatly influenc'd by the Presence of the Nabob's Army & from his former Conduct still suspect his irresolute Disposition will always stick close to him & when I consider that with the united Force we may protract the War but never be able to cutt of those great Resources the Enemy have my Sentiments are Daily more for Peace.

I am convinc'd the Major will Continue in the Field as long as Possible but am greatly concern'd that at so critical a juncture his Health is so precarious, for though I have a just sense of the Abilities of the other Officers yet between Friends I cannot think them equal to the Command however we must do our best it gives me some uneasiness to hear from Captns. Polier, Howes & Dr. Boswell that Captain Kilpatrick's wound has been laid open & that he cannot in a long time be fit for Field Duty.

Our Detachment march'd yesterday the [*sic*] Mahauphoos Cawn acceded to the Terms of receiving a Lack yet neither he nor abdul Bob Cawn seem inclin'd to go, the Nabobs Vackeel gives me hopes that should they both decline, their Forces will march under Command of their Jemmidars. I shall send him to Conjeveram to dispatch this business as expeditiously as Possible.

I have long expected the Kings Answer in regard to Madam Dupleix please to press it warmly & enclose in your Letter that I may reply to Mr. Dupleix's Letters which he will probably think I have been remiss in.

[27TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*——

I am glad to hear of the Recovery of your Health & hope it will continue your Design of staying as it must be of the greatest consequence at this Juncture so is it extreemly agreeable. I am, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant THOMAS SAUNDERS.

Fort St. George
27th June 1754.

30. Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE, ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

No. 13. Sir

This is just to advise you, our Detachment are on their March to Conjeveram & 50,000 Rupees have been sent Mauphis Cawn who agrees to march though still (such is the Disposition of these People) Difficulties may arise, Captn. Forbes & Campbell have Directions to give you constant Intelligence, that if the Enemy should make any Motion, you may be able to cause such Diversion as you think proper. We are Sir Your most obedt. Servants. THOMAS SAUNDERS, CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
30th. June 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

JULY. *Present*

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

MONDAY THE 1ST. The two following General Letters from Major Lawrence & one from him & another from Mr. Palk to the President read.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

No. 54. I have receiv'd yours of the 10th. June, my last was on the 15th.

Morarow has wrote again to the Nabob the King, and Monajee, & has promis'd to withdraw his Troops for three lack of ready Money. The King has promis'd to pay it for the Nabob; & has wrote in Consequence; the substance of his Letter was that Morarow should retire with his Troops, to his own Country, be an Enemy to the French & their Allies; & a Friend to us, and ours. mutually to assist each other when called on, & the Expence of such Assistance, to be bore by the Person who demands it. on these Conditions three Lack shall be paid for him in Buckanjee's Hands, which he shall receive in the following Manner. One Lack & a half to be paid; (each Day as he Marches such a Sum) & the Remainder one Month after his Arrival in his own Country. The King also has agreed to make him some Presents. We have had no Answer yet whether he has agreed, & ratified the above Terms. but We hear he has already cross'd the Caleron, & is above eight Coarse on his March homewards.

Monajee was Yesterday with Tondiman, & has persuaded him to make a Peace with the Moravar Pollygar; & both of them to join & Assist us. Were these People as ready to perform as Promise the Affair would soon be at an End. However it is a great Point gained, & Things are much mended. Would the King now join his

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*—— [1ST.]

Troops, I would not wait for Mahauphoos Cawn; but march directly to the Enemy, whose Situation by all Accounts is but Indifferent. having no Money, & Provisions scarce. As to Mahauphoos Cawn Gentlemen I see the Measures you have taken. Pray persist in your Resolution, of acting with Vigour; & let not a little Glare of Success dazzle us so, as not to see, & persue our true Interest.

Mr. Newton arriv'd Yesterday. But if Mr. Palks health will permit him, I hope he will stay till we move from hence.

Mr. Bishop's rank is really obscure to me, when that Gentleman Arrives, & lets you know his Pretensions we may be able to Judge.

Captn. Howes Gentlemen has serv'd you a twelve Month, & stands little Chance of a Vacancy at Bengal to Give him a Company. It is a hardship on a Person to be on Service without the hopes of Preferment. If any thing could be done for him on the Coast his Services, Qualities & Behaviour as an Officer & a Gentleman merit it from you.

I have appointed this Day Mr. Herdman Volunteer brought out by Captn. D'Illens to do Duty as Ensign. The Gentleman deserves justly his Promotion. his being young made me defer appointing him before I knew him; & now I find him qualify'd in every Respect for a good Officer. & I hope you will give him a Commission in Consequence.

My Answer to the Paragraph concerning myself & the Governour as also the Extract of the Genl. Letter I must wait a few Days before I can send it. I am, Gentn. Your most Obedient humble Servant S: LAWRENCE.

Camp near Tanjore
20th. June 1754.

P.S. I omitted in my last informing you Mr. White our Adjutant was oblig'd to go down to St. Davids on Account of his Health. since my writing this Accounts are come that Morarow is return'd having receiv'd two Lack from the King as soon as We hear for Certain I shall acquaint you.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs No. 55.

My last was on the 20th. & in Part answer'd your Favour of the 10th.

I have receiv'd a letter from the Governour in relation to the Paragraph from our Honble Masters. I hope Mr. Saunders will be satisfy'd with my Answer & be you assur'd Gentlemen that my utmost Endeavours, & happiness will be to promote that Harmony, & Friendship so requisite for the forwarding the publick Good, & Interest. I have proposed Gentlemen to forget what is past; which I sincerely will adhere to; & as I make no Doubt We shall all act with the same Sincerity, I do not fear the Company's Intention being fully executed.

We have receiv'd yet no Answer from Morarow I inform'd You he was come back but still remains on the other side of the Caleroon.

Should Mahauphoos Cawn again trifle with us I beg the Troops may be sent up to me as soon as Convenient. I saw with Pleasure the order you have given concerning the Remainder of the Military on board the rest of the Ships. I hope it will answer the purpose very well.

I agree with you Gentlemen that Nothing but a Peace is to be our Aim. but you well know that Nothing but a good & secure one can be of Service. I have given my Opinion to the Governour concerning the Treaty with the Dollaway, which I take the Liberty to refer you to, If he pleases. you will see my Motives for what I advance, & I beg you will judge accordingly.

[1st.] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*——

As I suppose Mr. Patterson by the nature of his Parole cannot do any Duty, Mr. White who is gone down Sick may supply his Place as Adjutant on the Coast; & you will please to order him to reside where you think most Convenient. Mr. Fraser acts as Adjutant in Camp & is to receive Mr. Patterson's Pay, as is usual in the like Cases.

The King has promis'd us faithfully to supply the Fort with Provisions sufficient for their present Consumption. If they are as good as their Word, I may stay longer here than I first intended. indeed till Mauphis Cawn's Arrival. the late Loss of Horse these People imprudently suffer'd, makes them find it difficult to repair it so soon as We could wish. But We must have Patience.

I beg you will not forget a Linguister.

I am, Gentleman, Your most obedient & most hble Servant.

Camp near Tanjore
24th. June 1754. S. Lawrence.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.

Sir

Nothing could give me greature [*sic*] Pleasure than to see our Honble Master's Intentions fully executed, & the Harmony, & Agreement recommended by them kept up Sincerely between us. The Causes from whence these unhappy Divisions have arose, or a Repetition of Grievances, are not the Means to forward a Reconciliation: but the most Effectual way is to bury in Oblivion what has passed and resolve heartily for the future to act as we Promise & seem to desire towards each other.

All that I ask Sir is to be supported in the Command I am honour'd with, as I ought to be; To answer the end of my Commission & the good of the Service. to be assisted in the necessary Regulations for the Military by your Approbation, & Sanction to my Orders, & Directions; when you think them Consistant with the general Rules, for the good of the Corps, & the Society in General. let a hearty Zeal for the Publick, & the Honour & Interest of our Master's Cause stifle all Animosities. It shall be my particular Study & Happiness.

From what I have said I hope you will do me the Justice to think what I offer now in regard to the Proposals for the Dolloway, does not proceed from Opposition to a Plan which you seem desirous to put in Execution: but by clearly stating the Consequences We may be the better able to obviate any of those Objections, which arise to me again [*sic*] the immediate making the Proposals. one thing I must own (so are we circumstanced) that there is no certain Alternative. For the French are too unreasonable in their Demands to treat with: & a Peace is absolutely necessary.

The Agreement with the Dolloway pays our Debt it is true; but does not finish the War the Year requir'd before the Delivery of the Fort is to be employ'd in recovering the Countries annex'd to the Trichinopoly Government, & that is to be done with our Assistance. Part then of our Force must be employ'd there. The Garrison in the Fort must be as Strong then as it is now to the Full; & provision'd for above the Year; As Nothing I think ought to be trusted to Chance, or the Faith of the Mysoreans, the Remainder of our divided Force must go into the Arcot Country, as the French will have no other Scheme to pursue, but carrying the Seat of War into that Province, & then their whole Force may be employ'd. Could the Dallaway be trusted, & really bought [*sic*] off from the French, a firm Ally to us, & a Friend to the King of Tanjore; that Plan is the best: but I much fear after the Expence he has been at, whether he would not find it his Interest, or think it so; to apply his Time & Troops, to the collecting Money from his Acquisition, & settling himself firmly in his new Government. & that We should find his assisting the Nabob in the quiet Possession of the Arcot Country would be but an empty Promise. & We still oblig'd to carry on the War at our own Expence. This is even supposing him neuter but what if an Enemy.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*—— [1st.]

Your Reflection on the French not sending any Ships till ours were ready is very just; & like their Politicks; & this might hasten the Proposals. But as there is a Chance it may not be so, For the french Ships are generally later than ours; Suppose We waited a little We have hopes of a Strong Army, & soon. which may enable us to pursue any Success We may have over the Enemy; & throw in probably a store of Provisions into the Fort, considerable enough to take off our immediate Attension [*sic*] on that Place, & leave us time to act, or treat, just as We see Convenient. Besides I can almost venture to assure you, that were Affairs ever so bad, & our Prospect of keeping the Fort ever so impossible, the Dalloway will always be glad, & ready to treat with us seperately about it. for there is nothing he so much fears or would more willingly avoid. as the French entering the Place with him, which must be the Case should it fall by Siege, Blockade, or any other way.

The immediate Inconvenience we labour under is, our Expence. To ease which there is but one Method left in my opinion, to take by the Nabobs leave the management of the Arcot Province in our own Hands, collect its Revenues, & pay Mahauphoos Cawn's Troops. a proper Allowance to be made to the Nabob, & his Family to be taken care of in the Settlements. If you should think this Right the sooner it is done the better, for Nothing I so much fear, as the want of Money some time after Mahauphoos Cawn's junction, should he Come, & Forces unpaid will do little Service.

You see then I think Sir we may Venture to delay this Offer to the Dalloway. At least this is my Opinion; but should you Judge otherwise, you will no doubt pursue what you think most for our Interest. for my Part I have really no other Scheme to offer than what I have mention'd. I am sorry indeed it is not in my Power to offer the Proposals you desire but my Health & State of mind at present will not permit me to take more Business in hand. Besides it would come much better from you. I having receiv'd once a Message from the Dolloway by one of my Hircars; that if any more of my People come to him on Business he would cut of their Ears & had not the Expedition of Poniapah been at his own Request, & a concerted Scheme. We should not have had any longer Intercourse.

Let me beg to recommend Captn. Kilpatrick's Affair to your Consideration. on my Account as wanting Rest; & also from the Advantage it will be to the Common Cause. I flatter myself I need say no more to induce you to it. I am, Sir, Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Camp near Tanjore
24th. June 1754. S: LAWRENCE.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R.

Honble Sir

I am honour'd with your general Letter of the 10th. Instant, The Contents so far as it was necessary, have been communicated to the Nabob, & the King who are both impatient for Mahauphoos Cawn's junction, which they think may be hasten'd if a part of the Sum is paid beforehand, I told them from many Years Experience, they might see that no Pains or Expence had been spared on your Part to forward their Interest, & therefore they might conclude you had done your utmost.

I acquainted the King how much Pleasure Succojee's Disgrace had given you that you very justly imputed all the late Troubles in this Kingdom, & a great part of the Nabob's in his Province, to the bad Measures, his Minister had advis'd, & that you congratulated him on so wise a Change, which was too much his Interest not to persist in, indeed Monajee seems so well establish'd that I have no fears of Succojie's Influence.

M^r. Newton arriv'd Yesterday & shall be introduc'd to the King as a Gentleman He is to look upon in the same Light with myself, & in case my bad State of Health obliges me to leave Tanjour, to remain here I will also give him all the Assistance in my Power, & defer my Return till after the March of the Army if I find it necessary.

[1st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*——

Morarow has made fresh Proposals to the King & the Nabob of returning to his own Country on the Conditions formerly offer'd, & has actually past the Caleroon with every thing that belongs to him, & advanc'd 8 Coarse N.W. of it. A Messenger is gone with the Kings Agreement to the most material Articles & Bills on the Merchants for the Payment of three Lacks of Rupees the half by dayly Marches, & the rest soon after his Arrival in his own Country: We expect to Night Morarow's Answer: to that part of his Letter wherein He propos'd to assist the Nabob, or make up the difference between him & the Dolloway, No Answer is given. I am very dubious of the Moratta's Sincerity in this Affair, perhaps the next advices may be that he is return'd to Syringham. We are told that many Reasons oblige him to take this Step, such as a Quarrell with the Dolloway about the Payment of his new Horse, & his own Country in Troubles, one Fort taken & another besieged by the Nabobs of Condanore & Currapa, but most likely it is only a Scheme to draw more Money from the Mysorean.

The French sent after him for their Share of the Horse & Plunder lately taken from the Tanjoreans, which he answer'd by telling them that as they had no Share in the Victory, they could have no Title to the Reward, besides that Mr. Dupleix was no small Sum in his Debt.

The Enemy are now incamp'd to the S: ward of Trichinopoly, &, it is said making Preparations to take Post to the W: ward about Mootischelinoor, but by their frequent Motions undetermin'd what Plan to follow, It is certain that both Money & Provisions are scarce with them at present.

Monajee met Tondaman Yesterday in Order to reconcile the Differences between him & the Moravar, of which he gives us some Hopes of Success, they have some Days ceas'd Hostilities, & Tondamon promises to send daily Provisions to the Fort of Trichenopoly.

The late Defeat near Trikatapully has so much diminish'd this Kings Force, that it takes Time to recruit it. We are pressing for the March towards the Enemy, but they would be better pleas'd to wait the Junction of Mahauphoos Cawn, or at least till the Arrival of 600 Horse from the Enemys Camp, who have promis'd Monajee to leave them: however I am in hopes they will march when the Deve Cotah Detachment joins. I am with great Respect Honble Sir, Your most obedient humble Servt. ROBT. PALK.

Tanjore
20th. June 1754.

I break open my Letter to tell you that Morarow is returned after receiving 2 Lacks from the Dolloway, at least the King sends us this Intelligence.

Agreed that the Detachment intended to Join Mahauphoos Cawn be order'd to proceed to Camp alone in case contrary to expectation Mahauphoos Cawn should still trfle or refuse to March, That an Ensign's Commission be granted to Mr. Herdman agreeable to the Majors Reccommendation on a Vacancy, & in regard to the Major's Objection to our Plan of an Accomodation with the Dalloway & his Sentiments on our present Situation that he be acquainted with the Reasons (which have frequently been offer'd & enter'd in the Minutes of Consultation) that induce the Board to continue in their former Sentiments the Chief of which are that tho it is certain an Accomodation with the Dallaway will not immediately terminate the War yet it will be a great Step towards it as the French will thereby not only lose a very large Force, but a great part of it will be added to ours; That the Fort & Country of Trichinopoly being in the Mysore Hands does not seem in the least to promise any Disadvantage to the Company's own particular Concerns but on the Contrary some Advantages are offer'd in the Treaty which tho not to be depended on are yet favourable Circumstances that Notwithstanding the King of Tanjore's wavering Behaviour, if the Treaty should take Place it must still be his Interest to keep him to the Nabob's Cause whilst We engage to protect him for there is not a single Point for him to gain by siding with

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*—— [1ST.]

the Enemy, & it is very obvious that the only Cause of his late Doubtfull Behaviour was the fear of having his Country ravaged by the Morattas which he hoped to avoid by a Neutrality, but a more weighty Argument than all is the heavy Debt due by the Nabob to the Company which at this time cannot fall much short of thirty five Lacks of Rupees a Sum which should the Company not recover may greatly affect their Credit at home, a Debt which if the War continue on the present footing will be daily encreasing, an Accomodation with the Dalloway on the Terms propos'd by Vencatrow will immediately discharge the whole or the greatest Part which if there should be a necessity to Continue the War will Certainly enable the Company to wage it with fresh Vigour these amongst many others are the principal Motives which determine the Board to make Overtures of Peace to the Dalloway on Vencatrow's Terms as soon as the Forces are Join'd which is Judged the properest time.

The following Letter to Major Lawrence is now Sign'd.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA. No. 14.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 20th. & 24th. as has the President that of the 24th. which We shall reply to in a Day or two.

We cannot think the least Confidence can be repos'd in Morarow As the Design of Mahauphoos Cawn's moving from Conjeveram must be well known to the Army his Design of lying on this Side the Caleron is probably to intercept him. Our Detachment consists of near 550 Europeans & Topasses with 600 Seapoys. We cannot ascertain the Number of Mahauphoos Cawn's Horse. You will have the quickest Intelligence of Morarow also of our Detachment as it moves nearer to you It is a strong Party nor can We have any Apprehensions but from their not having experienced the violent Attacks of Moratta Horse. We are Sir, Your most obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, AR. WYNCH, JNO. SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St: George
1st. July 1754.

Letter from Mr. Andrew Newton advising his Arrival at Tanjour, that he had been introduc'd to the King who gave him a favourable Reception, desiring that an Interpreter may be sent him as the Person now with Mr. Palk refuses to remain there after Mr. Palks return.

Several Letters from Mahauphoos Cawn. to the following Effect, that what Abdul Bob Cawn asserts of his having advanc'd him two Lacks of Rupees is absolutely false that he came into this Province from the Balagat Country purely to assist his Brother & should not have delay'd had he had it in his Power to proceed which he will do as soon as our Detachment joins him, that in Order to satisfy his People for the Present he requests that half a Lack of Rupees may be sent to him at Conjeveram and as a Security for Payment of part of the future Wages to his Troops he proposes that the Revenues of Conjeveram and Trivatore be assign'd to discharge the same & that those Revenues be receiv'd by us and remitted to the Army, that he has already wrote to Abdul Bob Cawn on the Subject & Requests the President will enforce it.

Agreed that the half Lack resolv'd to be paid here for Mahauphoos Cawn's Use be sent to him at Conjeveram & that Abdul Bob Cawn be wrote to in regard to the Revenues of Conjeveram & Trivatore agreeable to Mahauphoos Cawn's Proposal.

Letters from Captains Forbes & Campbell advising that they moved from Sydaput the 29th. & after a pleasant March were arriv'd at Condature from whence they propos'd to continue their March in the Cool of the Evening.

As the Detachment under the Command of Ensign Paccard is order'd to join the rest of the Forces at Conjeveram & proceed to the grand Army the Arcot Country

[1st.] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*——

will then be left solely to the protection of Abdul Bob Cawn whose Excessive Indolence & ill Conduct leave Room to fear the flying Parties of the Enemy will find but little opposition in ravaging it, and as We may hourly expect the Arrival of the Coast & Bay Ships with fresh Reinforcements

Agreed that a Party be formed of about 30 Europeans with proper Artillery & Stores to Join & Act with Abdul Bob Cawn for the Defence of the Country about Arcot & Conjeveram.

Captn. Gaupp at Chingalaput writes that the same Party of the Enemy who lately plunder'd Perembauk have since been Ravaging the Country about Augad & as they are commanded by one who has been in the Nabobs Service & knows all the Villages in the Chingalaput Districts he is apprehensive they will attempt something there if they meet with no Opposition, that Several Amuldars and Pollygars are willing to march against them but desire a Detachment to join them from the Garrison of Chingalaput which it is too weak to afford.

Captn. Kilpatrick at Trichenopoly advises that Morarow with all his Baggage had seperated from the Enemy crost the Caleroon & encamp'd on the Banks of that River, that the Rajah's People are stragling [*sic*] about the Country & all accounts agree that there is a general Discontent in their Army having so many Commanders but chiefly for want of Money.

Paupa Bramin having been acquainted that a good Interpreter was much wanted at Camp & there being great Difficulty in procuring one, it was propos'd to him to undertake that Charge as he has long been Solliciting to be restored to the Company's Service the faithfull Execution of which might be a Means of recommending him to further Notice, a Petition from him is now read setting forth Inconveniences that would attend him in his private Affairs were he to go to Camp, therefore requesting to be Excus'd but if that be refus'd that then he may be allow'd two Months to prepare himself.

Order'd that the Secretary signify to him as the Companys Service requires an Interpreter at Camp immediately, the Board insist upon his proceeding without Delay or in Default that he be render'd incapable of ever serving the Company again.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHS. BOURCHIER.

3. Sent the following Genl. Letter to Major Lawrence & one from the President to Mr. Palk.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

No 15. Sir

We wrote you the first and acknowledge the Receipt of Yours of the 20th. & 24th. Ulto. and that to the President of the 24th. which he has communicated to The Board, he is entirely satisfied with what you wrote him & desires you will believe the same Friendly Disposition on his Part you may be assured of being supported in your Command, assisted in the necessary Regulations of the Military with our Approbation and Sanction to your Orders consistant with the Rules laid down for the Good of the Corps, We dont doubt now but a perfect Union will prevail and on all Occasions shall with you exert our Zeal for the good of our Honble Master's Interest. in regard to public Affairs with what occurs to us both in regard to Peace & War We will now give you our Sentiments.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*—— [3RD.]

Our Honble Masters have been pleased to direct us to disconcert as much as Possible the Schemes of the French tending to the entire Ruin of their Settlemts. which before however extensive was not so obvious, yet by Mr. Dupleix's Demands at Sadrass appear beyond Doubt at the same Time they reccommend to us if Possible to establish Peace, this last the Result of a clear Conviction that a Trading Company are not able long to support an Expensive War fully persuaded those Gentlemen know their own Strength with uneasiness seeing an accumalated [*sic*] Debt of upwards of Thirty Lack of Rupees still encreasing, We esteem Pacifick Measures the more Requisite, for should they not be able to support the War this Debt must be esteem'd doubtfull, they must have recourse to a National Assistance. The Nation may not think their Affairs of weight sufficient to precipitate them into a War & if they do the Occasional Expences will be large & the Trouble & Illconvenience inconceivable. It is true Difficulties arise to obstruct our Designs of Peace but those in continuing the War appear to us not to be Surmounted let us examine into them.

Against a great Superiority by the bravery of our own Troops & surprising Success We have to this Time supported the Nabob but are very far from having settled him in the Province. We are greatly disappointed in the Hopes the Company give us of Recruits some of the Ships bringing little more than 30. However with those landed from Bombay and detaining those for Bengal we shall tolerably replace our Losses. the King of Tanjore promises to Join us and Mauphoos Cawn we believe will march this is our whole Force the Difficultys we apprehend are, the experienced want of Resolution of the King of Tanjore whom at present we conceive greatly aw'd by the Presence of our Army and that Mauphoos Cawn's Horse for want of Pay may go over to the Enemy when We shall be left again to Ourselves & most of the Expence will in either Case fall upon us the Strength of the Enemy will We conclude be still more than ever Superiour to ours if We may be allow'd to judge by Experience their Supplies from Europe will exceed ours double in Country Force the Mysoreans have encreased their Numbers they will be at least three to one, Besides that Part of these Troops are Moratta's and if We add that Salabad Jing who is now at Golconda will probably with the French that are with him come into the Province next Season We shall then have no other Measure to pursue but retiring to our Garrison. on the whole our Opinion is that thô by Good Troops and Gallant Officers We may protract the War yet We see no Probability of totally defeating the Enemy. On their Part the Expence will fall greatly on the Mysorean ; on the Nabob's mostly ours.

By the St. George our Honble Masters gave us Hopes that by the China Ships they should give us the Advice of a Happy Conclusion of a Treaty between them and the french Company by the China Ships they Regret that it was not finished but give some room to expect it by those for Coast and Bay We could wish they had imparted to us the Articles of this Treaty for the Face of Affairs is so much altered since the Advices ℔ Admiral Vernon &ca. that We are persuaded they can at this Distance fix on Nothing so conclusive but that it must probably admit of some Variation from what may be consistant with our present Situation and this timely Notice would possibly have enabled Us to have removed such Difficulties as might occurr or take such Advantages as after its Arrival We may not have Power to do unacquainted with Particulars We would flatter ourselves That the Removal of Mr. Dupleix is one. Private Report (which must never be admitted as a Rule for our Conduct) supposes some Difficulty in this Point and 'tis the Concurrent Opinion abroad that if [he] be not removed or the Treaty absolute he will not obey in such Case no General Peace can be expected & our only resource is to draw off the Country Powers. We & you are Unanimous in Opinion that the last Article is the only one without any other alternative. We agree also with You the Dalloway is convinc'd that if the French enter the Fort with him they will keep it for themselves, but We think it is a Question whether if We were drove to that Necessity he would comply with the Terms specified in Vencatrow's Proposals though this Disposition of his might allow us time to conclude this Treaty yet We think We should if possible do

[3RD.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1754.*——

it whilst our Affairs are in tolerable Situation. The great Expence he is at, The Plague he has from the Moratta & French are powerfull Reasons to induce him to accede to it if he does, the first Thing to be perform'd on his Part is the Drawing of his & the Moratta Troops from the Enemy which will weaken one & Strengthen the other, our Garrison must certainly remain in Trichenopoly when so large a Force is drawn off from the French We can afford a Party to assist him & with the Remainder join'd to his & the Nabob's Force be able to oppose the Enemy. The Security is to be on the Savacars; a Clause may be inserted that in Case he should fly off from the Treaty, they must Still pay the Money. We think no entire Confidence can be put in any Eastern Prince whatsoever but if the Necessity of our Affairs oblige us to treat with them We must act with the utmost Caution & Security in our Power.

From the foregoing We would infer that on comparing our Strength & weakness with that of the Enemy, 'tis our Opinion on the present footing We can only protract but not put an end to the War; & consequently as the Expence falls mostly on us we must be at an Expence too heavy for the Company to bear We conceive also that unless a Treaty be absolutely concluded at home Mr. Dupleix will not adapt that Measure to India & consequently no general Peace can be established. our only resource is drawing off the Country Powers & the only Measure the last Article. The greatest difficulty lies in reconciling the King of Tanjore & at the same time not taking a Step that may endanger the safety of the Army We therefore agree with you, that [it] be postponed till after the Junction of the King of Tanjore & Mahauphoos Cawn & then We think we should attempt it. We have now wrote you fully our Sentiments on this important Affair & desire you will with the same Confidence give us yours on them that We may unanimously fix on the Measure to be pursued.

Before the receipt of your Letter the Presidt. had at Mahauphoos Cawn's Request wrote to Abdul Bob Cawn concerning certain Districts to be set apart & deliver'd to the Amuldars of the former for the Payment of his Troops We hope this Affair will be settled & as our Detachment is arriv'd at Conjeveram [they will] soon march in Case they trifle any longer our Troops will proceed.

We have long ago wrote to Captn. Kilpatrick concerning the Majority.

We approve of your Promotion of Ensign Fraser to be Adjutant & Volunteer Herdman, to act as Ensign when a Commission is vacant he shall have it.

Chillumbrum proves a great Annoyance to us We suppose when their Recruits arrive they will Strengthen this the removal of the french Prisoners out of & the putting Provisions into Trichinopoly We can only mention as Difficulty's to be removed so far as may be consistant with your grand Plan; as Deve Cotah is so near Chellimbrum & so usefull to us in Escorts &ca. & the Garrison weak, We think if some of the Recruits landed were to stay there it might be Serviceable.

Morarow seems to be playing his old Game the Dalloways Money will always influence him.

We wish Monajee may Join & you be able to march before the Arrival of the french Recruits We are convinc'd how Serviceable Mr. Palk's Stay at Tanjore will be; We have not been able yet to get a proper Person either here or at St. David for a Linguist We shall use our utmost Endeavours.

Captn. Howes we had appointed to the Command at Arcot & shall be glad to be serviceable to him. We are, Sir, your most obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER

Fort St. George
3d. July 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 6TH. JULY 1754.*—— [3RD.]

To the Reverend Mr. Palk.

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 28th. Ult°.

No Endeavours have been wanting to hasten Mahauphoos Cawn's March a fine Detachment of near 550 Men have Join'd & Money has been sent him agreeable to his Request so that he is now without Excuse if he does not proceed at least any good one.

Should the King continue his Sentiments there's nothing to apprehend from Succojee but I greatly question his Resolution however We must make the best Use we can of his present way of thinking.

Morarow only gives us the second part of the same Tune, the Dallaway wills [*sic*] always influence him, I have weigh'd all Circumstances but too many appear to convince me We must act against a great Superiority at our own Expence & I think with very little probability of totally defeating the Enemy whilst their Resources are so many & so great I am therefore for Pacifick Measures as soon as they possibly can be executed.

Mr. Newton writes me he cannot prevail on your Linguist to stay after your Departure, I am sorry for it We have always found it Difficult to prevail on any to go to Camp, but since Poniapah has met his deserv'd Fate, you may as soon move the Church Steple as persuade any one to go.

I must again desire you will press the King to give me an Answer concerning Madam Dupleix's Letters before I believe he was intimidated but now I suppose he is not. I am, Sir, Your most obedt. Servant

Fort St. George
3d. July 1754.

Thos. Saunders.

The following general Letter sent to Major Lawrence as ☿ Consultation yesterday on the arrival of the Denham with Copy of the following Parā: of the general Letter from Engl. dated 23 Jañry 1754. Vizt. Para[*sic*]36, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 97, 98, 99, 100. 6.

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr. Commander in Chief of all the Honble Company's Forces in India. No. 16.

Sir

Yesterday arriv'd our Honble Master's [*sic*] Ship Denham from England the 18 Febry; inclos'd are Extracts of the most particular Paragraphs of the general Letter, by which you'l perceive the French had amus'd our Gentlemen so long with the Hopes of a conclusive Treaty that they had apply'd to the Government & a Squadron of Men of War were order'd to be ready to proceed to India with Troops. We have agreeable to their Directions lodg'd a Letter at St. David to the Commander in Chief desiring he would land his Forces there and that We imagin'd that was the most convenient Station for his Ships as being to Windward probably on their Arrival We shall have fresh Directions please to write us whether it will be necessary for these Troops to proceed to you or wait the Motions of our Neighbours who no doubt will have their Squadron and Troops also thô We imagine this Squadron will not proceed to India if the French will come to Terms which they have yet some Hopes of.

We think that the most advantagious Step we can take is to draw off the Country Powers, by the last Article, which the Company seem earnestly to wish. Mauphis Cawn we hope will March and after the Junction as the King of Tanjore is the only obstacle if he be told that as long as We have a Man on the Coast we will

[6TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 8TH. JULY 1754.*——

protect him & at the same time the advantage of an Alliance with the Dalloway made evident to him he may be reconciled to it for 'tis the only Step We can take; but as it may be productive of many Difficulties should he still obstinately persist in opposing this Plan, might it not be more adviseable to be sure We can conclude on the proposed Terms & then communicate our Resolution, this seems the safest way.

On the arrival of the Officers by the China Ships there were two Ensign's Commissions Vacant which we omitted to inform you were then granted to Ensigns John Henry Meyers & Joseph Darke agreeable to the Company's Reccomendation. Mr. James Steuart not yet arriv'd stands by the same Orders next in succession & then the three Gentn. mention'd in the accompanying Extract who are arriv'd We should readily grant a Commission on a Vacancy to Mr. Herdman in favour of your appointment to do Duty as an Ensign but we should first be glad of your Opinion whether it may not clash with the Company's Order.

Inclos'd is a Copy of a Letter from Captn. Campbell & one from Mr. Wynch. the Conicoply is dismis'd but We cannot help thinking Captn. Campbell too hasty in his Conclusions & that his offering to resign when an Army of so much Consequence is on the March is contrary to Military Rules We therefore desire on his arrival in Camp you will please to examine & take the proper Notice of it. We are, Sir, your most obedt. Servants.

THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
6th. July 1754.

N.B. The Case of Captn. Campbell referr'd to the Major in the foregoing Letter is this, when the Party march'd from hence, Captn. Forbes & Campbell requested that an able Conicoply might be appointed to assist Mr. Gordon who was to act as Commissary to the Party in paying the Men &ca. & Mr. Wynch with Difficulty prevail'd on one to go, but after the Party were on the March Mr. Wynch was inform'd that the Conicoply was not suffer'd to take or keep any Accounts & was dismissed from his Employ, upon which Mr. Wynch wrote to Mr. Gordon that it would be proper the Conicoply should be suffer'd to keep an Account of the Money paid away & that he might be of Service in many other Respects & therefore reccommended him to be again employ'd, this disgusted Captn. Campbell to such a Degree that he wrote the Presidt. he would continue in the Command no longer than Six Days & then resign his Commission & return hither.

MONDAY THE 8TH.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President lays before the Board the Camp & Country Correspondence.

Lieutenant Preston at Arcot writes that Mauphoos Cawn had been very pressing with him to receive his Family into the Fort.

Agreed that Mauphoos Cawn be desir'd to send them here where they may be in greater Safety as well as prevent any Embarrassment at Arcot.

Severall Letters from Captn. Forbes & Campbell giving an Account of their March & Occurrences to their Arrival at Conjeveram where they now are &

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 8TH. JULY 1754.*—— [8TH.]

Mauphoos Cawn has join'd them with all his Forces consisting of about 1500 tollerable good Horse 500 very indifferent ones, four Hundred Seapoys & one thousand Gingal Pieces. that they had already advanced him 25000 Rupees on which he at first promis'd to march but now insists on the other 25000 before he will Stir. That they are advis'd of about 1500 Seapoys 1000 Horse with some Europeans & Guns between Vandewash & Chittaput, that the 14000 Rupees sent out with the Party will but barely suffice to discharge the Pay & Batta to the Men they therefore Request a further & immediate Supply of ten or 12 thousand Rupees more.

The Commissary acquaints the Board that twenty thousand Rupees were sent a few Days ago to Captain's Forbes & Campbell.

Agreed that they be order'd to advance the remaining twenty five Thousand Rupees to Mauphoos Cawn on his Promise to march immediately.

Letter from Murtaz Ally Cawn in Answer to one wrote him by the President desiring him to send a Copy of his agreement with Abdul Bob Cawn, enclosing a Copy of a Letter of Indulgence to him from Abdul Bob Cawn but he makes no mention of the Engagement on his part.

The President is desir'd to write to him for a Copy of the Contract or Agreement he has made with Abdul Bob Cawn as well as that given him by the latter.

Letter from Nazeabulla Cawn the Nabob's Brother desiring leave to remove his Family hither.

Agreed that the Company's Protection be offer'd them.

Letter from Abdul Hamead Cawn Nabob of Cuddapa desiring our Assistance for the Protection of Pallam Cotah & its Districts having given Directions to the Killedar to discharge the Pay & Batta of the Men We shall furnish him.

Agreed that he be answer'd We shall very readily give him all the Assistance in our Power.

The President represents to the Board that a District of the Tripossore Country containing Seven Maganams or Eighty four Villages of the yearly Value of thirteen Thousand five Hundred Pagodas, runs into the Poonemalee Country but if it were put under the managements of the Company the Bounds would then be uniform & those two Countrys not interfering with one another Disputes with the Moors Government would [not ?] be as liable to arise he therefore proposes, that, Application be made to the Nabob for a Phirmaund for the said District & also the Manamangalum Country which produces Annually about fourteen Thousand Pags. to remain under the Company at the same Rents they are at present farmed at untill the Nabobs Debt to the Company be paid and that the said Rents be applyed in Discharge thereof, & that it be also propos'd to the Nabob to give the Company Phirmaunds for Covelon, Chingalaput, Tripossore & Conjeveram on the same Terms, all which the Board approve & think it will be both for the Company's & Nabob's Advantage.

The Commissary Reports that Abdul Bob Cawn having removed the Amuldar of Tripossore from that Employment & put in a new one, he has not been able to recover from him any thing on Account of the Lack assign'd to the Company on that District, forty thousand Rupees having been already receiv'd & two Payments amounting to 20000 Rupees are now due.

Agreed that Abdul Bob Cawn be wrote to on that Subject.

Agreed that Vencatrow the Mysore Vackeel be permitted to depart that he may make the Proposals of Accomodation to his Master.

Agreed that a Letter be lodged at St David to the Commander in Chief of the expected Squadron of Men of War to land the Forces there & Station the Ships in

[8th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 11TH. JUNE* 1754.*——

that Road, and that Mr. Starke be directed to make what Preparations may be necessary for their Reception that the Commander in Chief is to have either the Fort or Garden House & that a genteel Table be kept for him.

THO^{s}. SAUNDERS.
CHA^{s}. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^{R}. WYNCH.
JOHN. SMITH.
CHA^{s}. BOURCHIER.

11TH. The following general Letters to M^{r}. Starke & to the Commander in Chief of the expected Squadron sign'd & sent.

TO RICHARD STARKE ESQ^{R}. DEPUTY GOVERN^{R}.
OF FORT S^{T}. DAVID.

Sir,

By the Advices we have receiv'd from our Honble Masters this Season We have Reason shortly to expect the Arrival of a Squadron of Men of War on this Coast with a Body of land Forces on Board for the Protection & defence of the Company's Rights & Possession[s] & as they will probably touch at Fort S^{t}. David We are directed to lodge a Letter with You for the Commander in Chief of the Squadron containing our Sentiments as to the Disposal of the Men & Ships & We accordingly now enclose one under a flying Seal that you may know its Contents directed "To the Admiral "or Commander in Chief of a Squadron of his Majesty's Ships of War expected "shortly to arrive on this Coast" which on the arrival of the Squadron you will deliver.

The Honours to be paid the Fleet are usually settled with the Commander in Chief or by Orders from the Company, but We would nevertheless have you refer to your Records & see what was done at S^{t}. David on the arrival of Admiral Boscawen & Commodore Barnet.

The Commander in Chief is to have the same Military Honours as the President.

And the Captains of the Kings Ships the same as the Second in Council.

Make proper Preparations for the Reception of the Land Forces.

As Harmony & satisfyed Minds are the first Steps towards Success We would reccommend it to you to shew all due Civilitys to every one of his Majesty's Officers & procure them the best Accomodatious the place will afford, We do not mean that you are to do this at the Company's Expence, but your Interest & Authority may greatly facilitate their providing such for themselves, for as it is not Customary in any part of the World to supply the Kings Officers with a Table We see no Reason nor indeed can We be justifyed in putting the Company to such an Expence as was done during the Time Admiral Boscawen's Fleet lay here it was begun inadvertantly & it could not be dropp'd afterwards The Commander in Chief, should have either the Fort or the Garden House, the former We Judge would be the most proper, & one genteel Table must be kept for him at the Company's Expence to which he may invite such of his Officers as he may think proper.

We dont doubt but you have been carefull during these Troubles to have your Garrison in as good Order as possible, however it may not be improper to mention that you would do well to have your Military Stores of every kind carefully examined & such as are decay'd or useless replaced with New, let the Guns & Gun Carriages be survey'd & any Defects amended give Orders that at least thirty Rounds of Cartridges for the whole Garrison be kept constantly in readiness & in general put every thing relating to the Garrison & the Military in the best Condition you can, & Indent to us for what you may want.

* Thus in original; but July is obviously the correct month.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 11TH. JUNE* 1754.*—— [11TH.]

These are what Occur to us at present if We should receive any Directions from Europe on this Head you shall have timely Notice. We are, Sir, Your Affectionate Friends THO^{S}. SAUNDERS, CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEX^{R}. WYNCH, JN^{O}. SMITH, CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George.
the 11th July 1754.

TO THE ADMIRAL OR COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF A SQUADRON OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS OF WAR EXPECTED SHORTLY TO ARRIVE ON THIS COAST.

Sir,

The Court of Directors of the East India Company having acquainted us that his Majesty had been graciously pleasd to Order a Squadron of Men of War to be equipped & a certain Number of Land Forces to be embarked for the Service & protection of the Companys Possessions on this Coast, & that the said Squadron would call first at Fort St. David & directed us to lodge a Letter at that Settlement for the Commander in Chief of the Squadron containing our Sentiments on what might be most expedient for the Service both with regard to the landing & Employment of the Troops & the proper Station for his Majestys Ships, in compliance with their Commands We offer it as our Opinion that it is most adviseable to land the Forces at St. David where they may remain untill proper Measures can be concerted for employing them to advantage, & that the properest Station for his Majestys Ships at this Season is Fort St. David Road, being to Windward of this Port & Pondicherry.

We have given proper Directions for affording you all the Accomodations of every kind that the Place will admit of & for immediately supplying the Troops & Squadron with refreshment, We shall be well pleased if the Preparations We are able to make on this Occasion are to your Satisfaction. We have the Honour to be Sir Your most Obed^{t} Servants.

THOMAS SAUNDERS. CHARLES BODDAM.
Fort St. George HENRY POWNEY. ALEX^{R}. WYNCH.
11th July 1754. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}. GOV^{R}. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEX^{R}. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

MONDAY THE 15TH.

Two General Letters from Major Lawrence & one from Mr. Palk read as follow.

TO THE HONBLE THO^{S}. SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}. PRESIDENT.
& GOVERNOUR &C^{A}. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

My last was on the 24th. Inst: & I have receiv'd none from you Since your Favour of the 10th. N. 56.

Having heard some Reports much to the Disadvantage of Mr. Patterson's Character, I orderd a Court of Enquiry; which I now send you enclosed. The Officers Request to me seems Just, & reasonable; & I dare say will appear so to you;

* See the preceding page.

[15TH·] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH· JULY 1754.*——

without my pointing out particularly the bad Consequences of such repeated imprudences in Conversation. the best of Men have their unguarded Minutes; but when such Errors plainly proceed from a bad Disposition, & are the constant tenour of a Man's life. such a Member of Society is a Disgrace to it. You must be sensible Gentlemen if a proper Spirit, & decency of Behaviour is not kept up in every Gentleman like Profession, it is attended with bad Consequences, but especially in the Military. An Army without Sentiments of Honour is of all corrupted Societies the worst, & most Dangerous. It is necessary therefore Examples should be made. I believe We may be pretty Certain that a Person who could be so dispirited from the apprehension of approaching Danger, would not have acted either cooly, or firmly, when it had been nigh not to mention, the bad Effects of creating Divisions amongst his Brother Officers, by that vile Quality, & Office of a Tale Bearer.

Tho' he is Prisoner I believe it would be no hard Matter upon Application to get him Leave to come on his Parole to the Army, & there take his Tryal as the Court of Enquiry will shew him what he is accused of, he may by coming through the Settlements see it, and prepare himself accordingly, for his Defence. I dare say from a Court Martial he will meet will [*sic*] all the Justice he can demand: & as much Lenity as is consistant with our Rules & the well being of the Service.

Part of the Bombay Detachment joyned us on the 27th· commanded by Captn· Zeigler. I have thought it necessary to order that they might be paid in the Field on the same footing with all the rest of the Troops. It is impossible to make any Difference in such a small Corps as ours Distinctions are always attended with Jealousies, And Nothing but our Union has, & can make us Continue to act as We have done. I hope you will approve of the Order & confirm it. there is also a Demand on those Gentlemen from St· David to refund the Batta while they were on Board of Ship as Provisions were allow'd them; The Same Gentlemen was allow'd to Captn· Ridge & his Party; yet they receiv'd Batta from the Time they left Madrass. I am sure they [*sic*] will be no difference made.

I have receiv'd your Letter under a flying Seal for Captn· Kilpatrick & immediately sent him a Copy for fear the Original might fall in the Enemys Hand. The minute his Answer comes, I shall forward it. Accept of my Thanks Gentlemen for your ready Acquiescence to my Request, & on my Report. I hope you will find your Advantage in it, as in every other Step you will please to pursue.

Every Day we are promised that the Troops will march out. But I believe since they have heard there is some chance of Mauphoos Cawn's coming, they protract the Time on purpose to wait for his arrival. But as your next Letters I hope will set that Affair in a more certain Light & let us know what We may depend on I shall defer taking my Measures till that arrives.

We still continue to treat with Morarow. but the Success is uncertain. He waits I believe to see who will bid highest. He is still encamp'd on the other Side of the Caleroon. I am, Gentlemen, Your most obedient & most humble Servant.

Camp Tanjour
1st· July 1754. S. LAWRENCE

P.S. The Bramine which Mr· Palk brought out with him has consented to stay in the Field with me. If you approve of him; I think him a proper Person. Gopaul may stay with Mr· Newton; Unless you can find one you like better.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR· PRESIDENT
& GOVR· &CA· COUNCIL OF FORT ST· GEORGE.

No. 57. Honble Sir & Sirs,

I was favour'd yesterday with yours of 27th· Ultº· my last was on the first Instant.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. JULY 1754.*—— [15TH.]

The President's Letter of the 5th. February I never receiv'd. It is probable it was lost with those of the 6th. of the same Month, which fell into the Enemy's Hands: tho had it arriv'd I could by no means look on that Paragraph (Copy of which you have sent me) as an Answer to my Letter of the 30th. Instant I did not find fault there with Captn. Campbell's being kept in Garrison, but in the manner he did it; Contrary to the Rules observed in the Army & what I thought was due from him to me as his commanding Officer. I wanted him then to be made sensible of his Error, by his Superiours.

As to the Gentleman's imaginary Plea of Injustice done him in not being appointed to Command at Trichinopoly, he never told me that was his Reason for asking leave to go down to the Settlements. He asked my Leave on account of his Health. but to be sure Gentn. a little Time after; when the good of the Service obliged you to look over an Officer's threatning to throw up his Commission, unless he did as he pleased: It could not be a proper Juncture to take Notice of the Neglect I thought shown me; when you had such an Insult offer'd you. Give me leave seriously to assure you, what I asked was only the Custom, & looked on as a Point of Duty in the Army, what I thought for the good of the Service & what I own; If I have the Honour to stay in it I expect. & as it is not unreasonable, nor the least infringement on your Power, & the Respect I owe & am willing to pay to you as my Superiours. I hope you will think me right in it & support me.

Morarow's Business is almost finished; on the Conditions I wrote you before. This Day the Nabob's the King's & my Letter goes; accepting, & ratifying the Conditions. & soon I think I shall have the Pleasure to inform you of his March.

I have return'd you my Thanks Gentlemen for Captn. Killpatrick's Promotion. The late Operation made on him will I hope make an entire Cure of his Wound. & make him fit for the Field, when I find myself unable to stay in it.

I shall observe the Orders as to the Bombay Detachment, & am much pleased to find (as I wrote you in my last) that We agree in Opinion to pay them Troops as We do ours.

I am in hopes from your Letter soon to See Mauphoos Cawn; or what will be as well his Troops.

Captn. Lieutent. Harrison died at Trichino[poly] the beginning of this Month.

I shall take care of the Affair concerning Poonemalee as you desire. The King & Nabob have receiv'd your Letters, & were much pleased with them. I am, Gentlemen. Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Camp near Tanjour
5th. July 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Honble Sir,

My last was of the 20th. of June, yours of the 27th. The King of Tanjore is in my Opinion too much in your Power to pursue any other Measures than those you shall think proper to recommend; after Resisting the Enemy with the loss of two Forts, Killcota & Coiladdy, The Defeat of his Army & the cutting the Bank, We can have no Reason to suspect him. He pressed the Nabob's Army to Join him, by repeated Letters, which they had not receiv'd when they left Trichinopoly, it was indeed the only Method he could take since he had refus'd the Enemy's strong Sollicitations, & large Offers, & as a further Security for his Sincerity. He has agreed to Morarow's Proposals & even advanc'd the three Lack to Bokinjee, 50,000 Rs. to be paid at Volconda [*sic*] one Lack at Bolligot or Connama near Arcot, & the other half, 20 Days after his Arrival at his own Place.

This Agreement with the Moratta Vackeels was concluded by the Nabob, the King & the Major last Night, & We expect very soon to hear that Morarow is on

[15TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. JULY 1754.*——

his Return; as Captn. Kilpatrick writes that he continues on the other side of the Caleron & his Baggage is lately moved from Seringham He may perhaps be in Earnest, & when he is gone, the Mysorean in all probaity [*sic*] must soon follow; Provisions for a Year in Trichinopoly & an English Garrison of 200 Europeans & 2000 Sepoys will secure the Company's Debt, or if you determine to accomodate with the Dalloway, the present Situation of his Affairs must induce him very readily to agree to much more advantageous Terms than those of the 11th. whatever Plan you shall think necessary to follow, your Prospect is good.

Confusion Suspicion & want of Money still continue among the Enemy's Troops, all the Chiefs are caballing & demanding the Arrears of Pay, the French only remain at Chucklerpollam, & Nandiroz at Seringham, having detached a Party to Worriarpollam to collect Money.

The Major has no Thoughts of quitting the Field, but as he is so liable to Disorders which give little or no Warning, it seems necessary that a Successor should be provided, to supply his Place in Case of Accidents, & Captn. Kilpatrick's Answer to the Major acquainting him with the Contents of a Letter in his Favour to the Governour & Council mentions Nothing of what Messrs. Polier Howes & Boswall [*sic*] have represented.

There is now so great a Probability of Mauphoos Cawn's March that the waiting his Junction is strongly Sollicited by the King & the Nabob, thô Monajee is ready to attend the Majors Commands whenever he pleases, his Force I imagine will consist of 1500 Horse & 2000 Sepoys, He also has great Reason to expect from the Enemy's Camp an old Jemmidar with 600 Horse.

In a Day or two I will send you the Answer on the Subject of Madame Dupleix, thô I fear it cannot be Satisfactory, inclosed is a Letter from Ballazerow who has also written to the King & the Nabob acquainting them that he has recalled Morarow.

I am with great Respect Hoñble Sir, Your most Obedient humñ: Servant R: PALK.

Tanjore,
5th. July 1754.

P.S. I have receiv'd from Mr. Dupré Bills for Pags. 2200.

The President lays before the Board the following Letter to Mr. Palk which thô dated Yesterday is not yet sent Vizt.

TO THE REVD.: MR. ROBERT PALK

Sir

Since I wrote you the 3d. Instant is come to hand yours of the 5th.

I still think the Kings Resolution not so much to be depended on as to drop our Intentions and doubt Morarow's Sincerity. when you say our present Situation must induce the Dalloway readily to grant more advantageous Terms, & whatever Plan We think necessary to follow the Prospect is good. our Plan is the 11th. & I heartily wish I could see it concluded for our Situation is so precarious that a few Days may turn the Scale, at present our Ships have arrived by which We have been able to send a large Reinforcement to Camp & not one French Ship as yet has Anchored in Pondicherry Road this has been a lucky Circumstance & has a good appearance to the Country Powers, but you & I know that every Hour may be expected 7 or 8 Sail of French Ships from the Islands with a much larger Number of Recruits than We have receiv'd, will our Situation then be the same, I am afraid neither the King of Tanjore, Dallaway, or Morarow will think so, & then shall We be able to get better Terms.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. JULY 1754.*—— [15TH.]

Mahauphoos Cawn was the 9th. got as far as Chittaput, Morarow lies on this Side the Coleroon, I shall be glad if he does not Endeavour to harass them.

In short I dont think We are able to support the Expence of carrying on the War, if not, what is to be done, a general Peace cannot be expected from the French, the only alternative is the 11th. & I believe the only Objection to it at prest: is the King of Tanjore whom We must endeavour to reconcile to it but shall wait his & Mauphoos Cawn's Junction with the Major before We endeavour at it. I am Sir your most Obedient Servant T. SAUNDERS.

Fort St. George,
14th. July 1754.

Agreed that a general Letter be wrote to Major Lawrence to the same Effect as that above to Mr. Palk & that for the Reasons therein mention'd the Place [plans ?] of Accomodation with the Dalloway be pursued and therefore

Agreed that Vencatrow be suffer'd to Depart to make the Proposals to his Master.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Mons. De Bussy dated at the french Camp the 14th. June 1754. purporting that he had heard We treat the Great Moguls' Phirmaund address'd to the General of the french Nation as supposititous as well as those from Salabad Jing for the Province of the Carnatick & its Dependances, that he (De Bussy) receiv'd those very Packetts from Delhi & transmitted them to Pondicherry & that he should deserve the greatest Punishments were he thus to impose on his King & Country. that Salabad Jing & his Prime Minister on hearing these Reports asked what could induce us to spread them & continue the Troubles in the Country & he (De Bussy) desires to know our Reasons.

Agreed that he be answer'd that if he has any Thing to communicate to us on publick Affairs he should do it thro' the Means of the Governour of Pondicherry with Whom we Negociate touching the Concerns of our Nation & not with every Officer who may think proper to demand the Motives of our Actions.

Letters from Captn. Howes & Lieut. Preston the first advising his Arrival at Arcot & that he had taken charge of the Fort from Lieuten. Preston who writes that he had deliver'd over the same Captn. Howes also advises that the Fort is so extreemly out of Repair that the Bastions have not Strength to support the firing of the Cannon mounted on them, except two Bastions lately repair'd by Lieut Preston, that the Number of Workmen allowed by Abdul Bob Cawn is so small & so much Difficulty attends the procuring of Materials that the Repairs will go on but very Slowly.

Captains Forbes & Campbell advise that they had advanced Mahauphoos Cawn the remaining 25000 At. Rs., that the combined Force march'd from Conjeveram and were advanced as far as Trivatoor from whence they proposed to continue their Rout by the Way of Chittaput & Trinomely, that the Supply of twenty Thousand Rupees sent them was safely arrived & would be sufficient, that one Alla Abdal Ais Cawn a Patan who is now at Tripatoor with 1000 good Horse, 1000 Seapoys, 1000 Peons & 20 Europeans with two Guns had offer'd to Join Mauphoos Cawn with all his Force but that Mahauphoos Cawn is scrupulous on Account of the want of Money to defray the Extraordinary Expence they must Occasion.

Agreed that Captns. Forbes & Campbell be directed to press Mauphoos Cawn to continue his March with the greatest Expedition without waiting a Moment for the Junction of Alla Abdal Ais Cawn whose Proposal may be made with no other View than to retard the March, but that Nevertheless it would be proper to invite him to Join.

Letter from Mr. Thos. Mansell Commissary at Camp enclosing general Musters of the Forces under the Command of Major Lawrence.

[15TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 18TH. JULY 1754.*——

Letter from Ballazerow recommending the continuance of our Assistance to Nabob Anaverde Cawn and promising to send an Army in a little Time to settle the Country.

Whether this Letter really came from Ballazerow or not the Board are of Opinion that no Dependance should be placed on it.

Washadevy Punt our Vackeel in Salabad Jings Camp writes that Mr. Bussy had obtain'd leave of Salabad Jing to go & settle the Rajahmundrum & Chicacul Countrys, accordingly set out with the whole Army except 500 Seapoys & two hundred Hatmen with two Sardars and Five Guns which remain with Salabad Jing.

Letter from Walley Mahomed Cawn Amuldar of Trepassore advising that the Chief of Paliacat had hoisted his Flag on the Circars Limits and prohibited all Intercourse between him & the Inhabitants, complaining of several Acts of Arbitrary Power practised by the said Chief & desiring our Interposition.

Agreed that the Amuldar be acquainted that We have no Right or Power to dictate to or restrain the Dutch in any thing that does not immediately affect the Company's Rights or Property.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

18 Receiv'd the following Letter from Mr. Palk.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Honble Sir

Inclosed comes the Kings Answer * relating to Madame Dupleix. Ramrow the Vackeel is to be order'd back, & another Person to succeed him, which Monajee hopes will be agreeable to You.

* Vide the King's Answer in Book of Country Correspondence.

Yesterday We heard from Serringham that Morarow had taken 4 Lack from the Dalloway & agreed to stay, & last Night he writ Monajee that he was ready to proceed on his March. I am, with great Respect Honble Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant

Tanjore
9th. July 1754. ROBT. PALK.

P.S. What you desired from the Nabob will come tomorrow inclosed to his Vackeel, I find from him that he thinks it for his Interest to keep the Perwana a Secret.

The following Answer sent to Mr. Palk, & General Letter to Major Lawrence.

TO THE REVEREND MR. ROBERT PALK.

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 9th. the King Trifles, the Vackeel declares he wrote him that Succojee would communicate to him certain Matters this strongly confirms me that Discourses with Vackeels are of little Signification when they come to the Point they will always equivocate.

I have no Opinion of the Treaty with Morarow, the Proposals made by Vencatrow We in general esteem'd very favourable I have so often receiv'd his Proposals & have so often deceiv'd him that between Friends I am ashamed and instead of thinking that they have the least Confidence in us I am convinced that whatever Terms

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 18TH. JULY 1754.*—— [18TH.]

We now get must be entirely the Effect of their Necessity, Vencatrow has deliver'd me a Remonstrance setting forth his long Residence here that tho often promised yet Nothing settled & that he has Nothing for expences. I am Sir Your most Obed^t. Servant. THO^S. SAUNDERS.

Fort S^t. George
18th. July 1754.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^R. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Since We wrote you the 6th. your Letters of the 1st. & 5th. are received with the Opinion of the Court of Enquiry on M^r. Patterson's Conduct Which has been signified to him that he may if possible get his Parole & clear his Honour by a Court Martial. No. 17.

We put the Bombay Detachment entirely on their Arrival on the same footing of ours to avoid Confusion in Accounts, & to prevent any Uneasiness or impediment to Captn. Forbes's Commands We indulged them particularly but this was to Subsist no longer than their Arrival in Camp, when they would be incorporated in the Battalion & under the same Regulation without Distinction We consented some of the Officers should have an Allowance for Horses, which seems to have been misunderstood, they have purchased them on the Companys Account however we have consented that if on your seeing them they appear worth the money charged for them they be Accepted. By a Letter from Capt^ns. Forbes & Campbell of the 12th. they were encamped within 3 Miles of Chittaput & had received your Letter.

The Account We have of Morarow is that the Nabob of Cuddapah has taken some of his Forts which gives him uneasiness that he has compromised Affairs with the Dalloway for 1 Lack in ready Money & three more on the Sarcars, [sowcars ?] he is at Syringham and three Thousand of his Troops on this Side the Caleroon a Post equally Advantagious either for succouring the Dalloway or intercepting Mahauphoos Cawn.

We are glad both you & M^r. Palk are supplyed with Interpreters as We could not prevail on Paupa Braminy to go to Camp.

As Captn. Campbell came in with your Leave with other Officers for his Health nothing occurred in regard to him till long after when he was order'd to Camp and pleaded his hopes of the same Indulgence as Captn. Charles Campbell we immediately advised you of it as well as our Reasons for the supplying you with as many Officers as Possible, We shall always Discountenance any thing that may tend in the least to diminish your Command.

Captn. Polier has applyed to us for the Allowance of Commander in Chief during your Sickness in Trichenopoly please to let us know the Time he also thinks it a hardship that he must recloath such as are taken Prisoners or that he be not constantly paid his full Stoppage for his Company compleat a Copy of his Petition to the Board is enclos'd on which We desire your Opinion the Company this Year direct that the Swiss enjoy the same Priviledges as in any other Foreign Service.

By the enclosed Copy of a Letter to the Nabob you will perceive the President has desired that several Villages that interfere with Poonemalee Country & give us great illconvenience be granted to us partly to reimburse the Debt to the Company and as Abdul Bob Cawn not only collects the Rents of several Countrys which 'tis said he Secretes without paying any Thing to the Nabob, but by enumerable [*sic*] Acts of Cruelty will in a short time occasion those Countrys to be quite depopulated he has also wrote him that it would be for his Interest that those Countrys were under our Direction. he & me [we?] having a Person in each to take an Account of what is collected, We think he can have no just Reason to reject this as 'tis actually for his Benefit.

[18TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 18TH. JULY 1754.*——

It is reported that Salabad Jing is at Golconda & that Monsr. Bussy leaving 100 Europeans with him is on his March to Metchlepatam with a Design to settle the Governments of Chickacull & Rajahmundrum.

Not one Ship as yet arrived at Pondicherry that Monsr. Godeheu saild from France the 31st. December is certain as well as that 2 french Ships have touched at the Cape, at home 'tis surmised several Ships have been sent out by which We conclude they rendevouz [*sic*] at the Islands & will arrive most of them at once.

A short Letter from the Company of the 31st. of January mentions that our Squadron will consist of a, d, k, f, (4) Ships of the Line and r, h, s, (2) Frigates 'tis said that i, b, (3) of our Ships design'd for Bombay & will come as tenders to the Men of War that the land Forces will consist of c, o, q, s, a, q, (800 Men, proper Directions are lodged at St. David for landing & Accomodating these untill Measures can be concerted for employing them to Advantage.

Weighing these several Circumstances the irresolution of the King of Tanjore, insincerity of Morarow, the bad Situation of the Nabob's Affairs, The March of Monsr. Bussey to Metchlepatam the Expectation of a large french Force which will undoubtedly greatly influence the Several Partys & our Incapacity to support so large an expence, & what the Company say on that Subject as you will have observed by the Extracts sent you We are confirm'd in our Sentiments of Peace & as soon as ever We hear from You that your Situation will admit of it shall make our Proposals to the Dalloway.

We hope Captn. Forbes's Detachment will soon Join you should the Enemy receive a Stroke of ill Success before the arrival of their Ships 't would be of great Consequence.

Mr. Hopkins will send you Mr. Fraser's Account, a Ballance being due from him to the Company which We desire you will recover. Copy of a Petition in relation to a Transaction of that Gentleman's enclosed, which We refer to you to cause a proper enquiry to be made.

You have also herewith a Copy of Mr. Bishops Certificate by which it appears pretty plain he supercedes all the Ensigns & is to have the first Vacant Lieutenancy.

The Original Letters to the Nabob & King of Tanjore and English Copy's are enclosed as well as a List of the Seven Maganams containing 84 Villages of the Tripossore Country, & a List of 15 Villages being the Jagueer annexed to the Killedarship of Poonemalee. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants.

Thos. Saunders, Chas. Boddam, Henry. Powney, Ar. Wynch, John Smith, Chas. Bourchier.

Fort St. George
18th. July 1754.

P.S. Our last dated 6th. Instant was not number'd, it should have been No. 16.

Captain William Lee of the Bombay Establishment & Ensign David Blake & Randfurlie Knox proceed from hence to morrow for St. David & from thence for Camp, the two last are lately arriv'd from Europe.

At a Consultation

Present.

Saturday the 20th.

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Govr. President
Charles Boddam — Henry Powney
Alexr Wynch — John Smith
Charles Bourchier.

The following General Letters read & one from Mr. Palk to the President Vizt.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 20TH. JULY 1754.*—— [20TH.]

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs No. 58.

I have receiv'd both your Favours of the 30th. June & 1st. Instt.

I have acquainted you before I sent Ramah Naigue back. The Remainder of the things he brought out with him, are left part with me, & part at Trichinopoly. Those here were really intended for Presents, for they will not do for a Markett; As I intended disposing of them that way, but they will not fetch Prime Cost. I never receiv'd the List Mr. Starke was to send me, of what he had brought out with him: As the President informs me he had given Orders for it On Account of Ramah Naigue's having exceeded, or misunderstood his Directions; & taking up much more Things than were Necessary, or than he ought.

Inclos'd Gentlemen I send You a Letter receiv'd from Mr. Monchanin; and my Answer. It is really a Grievance, so many Officers being sent out will disgust People. But I cannot help at the same Time, Admiring the Modesty of a Man, that complains he has not a Company for 23 Months Service; & who to be sure from the footing he came out on, had such a Prospect & such Pretensions. I have known many a prettier Fellow serve 20 Years, and in hard Service too without one: no Disparagement to the Gentleman, to whom I must do the Justice to say; he is a good Officer, & has behav'd well. But if my Advice may be taken in this Case, You must support, properly & with Spirit your own Regulations. I would send for him to Madrass, dismiss him the Service, & take care to send him home. & untill the Time of his Departure, make use of some Precautions, that might prevent his offering his Service elsewhere. I have no Reason for my Suspicion, but I think it would be prudent he is a good Officer, & neither wants Experience, nor Briskness. His Plea for leaving us seems Just, when he tells his own Story: In short he is a Foreigner, & We dont know how far Offers may sway with him.

Morarow still Continues on the other side of the Caleroon. I am not apprehensive of any Designs upon the Party, but shall take proper precautions to prevent them. I believe his Intention is to see who will bid highest. a little Time now will clear up every thing, as to his Stay or March; for this Day the Bills are gone for the 3 Lack.

The King with his whole Army have cross'd the Covery, & are encamped where Mr. Law was in Captn. Gingin's Time. By all accounts they Complain much for want of Money in their Camp. I am in hopes our march will make every thing else as scarce. I am, Gentlemen Your most obedient humble Servant S: Lawrence.

Camp near Tanjore,
10th. July 1754.

Copy of Lieut. Monchanin's Letter to Stringer Lawrence Esqr.

Monsieur

Voules vous bien me permettre de M'addresser á vous, pour vous demander la Grace, de me laisser aller a Madrass, vous seres sans doute Surpris Monsieur qu'a la Face de L'Ennemy, Je demande mon retour en Garrison, Et Je sens tres bien que dans toutes autres Circonstances, Il seroit deshonorant pour moy. JN'alequeray [*sic*] point ma Santé, qui n'est pas des Meillieures, ny mes Affaires. Ce qui me fait prendre Cette Liberté; est l'arrivée de trois Capitaines D'Europe pour cette Année, pour cette Coté. Depuis 23 Mois que J'ay l'honneur de Servir l'honorable Compagnie; Grace á Dieu J'ay toujours fait mon Devoir. Et personne j'espere n'a rien à dire a mon Desavantage dans les Occasions ou Je Me suis trouvé, Non plus que d'avoir manqué mon Service, par des Maladies Venues de ma faute.

Ilest donc facheux pour mois apres 21 mois de Campagne, que Je vois venir deux Annees de Suite, des Officiers, que sont proposé pour Manger le Pain que je pourrois Esperer dans peu par mon application á faire mon devoir. Je sens que de

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retourner en Europe aussi n'etre que J'en suis sorti, n'est pas gracieux pour moy. Mais Je ne Ballanceray jamais des Parreilles Circonstances. J'espere Monsieur qu'il vous plaira me donner la Permission de partir avec un Passeport, ou me permettre d'en demander un a Mr. Mainville. J'espere partir par les Vaisseaux de Septembre; mes Finances ne me permettant point de perdre du temps Oseray Je me flatter d'une Reponse de votre part: Et vous supplier d'etre persuade que &c^{a}. &c^{a}. E: MONCHANIN.

Copy of Major Lawrence's Answer.

Sir

The Injustice you Complain of I have always looked on it as a general Grievance, have represented it so, & have applied for Redress. But as to particulars being offended, and leaving the Service on that Account, gives me no concern, Nor shall ever meet with any Hindrance from me. You have equal Sufferers with yourself. And give me leave to tell you Sir, had you not by good Fortune got into our Service, I should be glad to know what Rank you would have enjoyd amongst your own Gentlemen, had you waited (As it was what only you had a Right to expect) to be preferr'd amongst them. I shall likewise own with you, I think it an odd Time for Such a Request, And so much so, that I shall not pretend to give you leave untill I have an Answer from the Govern^{r}. & Council to whom I have sent your Letter & who I reckon will consider your Demand as they think proper. Your Services which you are pleased to Mention, Are no more than what was your Duty. & I hope our Service is not so Cheap as to think doing that a Merit. I am &c. S. LAWRENCE.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &C^{A}. COUNCIL OF FORT S^{T}. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have just now receiv'd your Letter wherein you have done me the Honour upon Major Lawrences Reccommendation to offer me a Majors Brevet and the Command of your Army, I am oblig'd to the Major for his good Opinion of me & to you Gentlemen for approving of me to Succeed him in such an Important Charge, the only Objection I shall make is the uncertain State of Health I am in, having been under the Necessity several Times to have my Wounds opened, and so lately as since the Major left this Place; however if you will Risk that my best Endeavours shall not be wanting to promote the Service, & would with much greater Pleasure take the Field to assist, than to succeed Major Lawrence, I am ready to Submit to your Pleasure, & have the Honour to remain Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most obedient humble Servant.

Trichenopoly
July 9th. 1754.

JAMES KILLPATRICK.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}.

Hoñble Sir

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 3^{d}. Instant Mauphis Cawn's March & the addition of so fine a Detachment will it is believ'd here put an End to the Dalloway's Hopes, he & the French still remain at Chercorepollam, Perdanapondith has been long Dispatched, [*sic*] to Seringapatam for Money but hitherto without Success, &, if Bokingee may be believed, this Article cannot easily be supplied, the Misore Coffers having already [been] too much drained to continue their Remittances, if they were inclin'd to do it, a Secret which Morarow is said to have found out, & therefore a very prevailing Argument, with him to quit their Cause, added to the 3 Lack of [*sic*] 70,000 Rupees to be paid by the King of Tanjour; Bokinjee's Bills, with Sowcars appointed to make the stated Payments are now in his Camp, & We expect dayly to be advised of his March, thô Should a large Reinforcement in the Interim arrive at Pondicherry, a few Lacks may alter his Route.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 20TH. JULY 1754.*—— [20TH.]

Be this as it will, Morarow is at a Distance & cannot soon rejoin the Dalloway, Dawn Sing with 500 Horse is also seperated, which determines the Major to march, without waiting for Mauphis Cawn, the moment the Tanjoreans can be got ready, Monajee began his incampment yesterday, & promises his whole Force of b, c, h, q, r, q, q, (2000) Horse & d, f, h, l, q, s, q, (2500) Sepoys shall Join you immediately.

My Lingnist agrees to stay with the Major on Condition of his Allowances being increased an Encouragement which he seems to deserve, so that Gopaul may be left with Mr. Newton, unless another sent up by Mr. Starke should be thought as proper a Person.

I have already forwarded the King's Answer concerning Madame Dupliex's [*sic*] Letter. I am with Respect Honble Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servant.

ROBT. PALK.

The Board are entirely of Major Lawrences Opinion that it is highly necessary to support with Spirit the Regulations that are judg'd proper to be made amongst the officers, that Lieutenant Monchanin's pretended or real Disgust at the Arrival of three Captains from Europe is of bad tendency & if not taken Notice of may set a bad Example to the rest it is therefore Agreed his Offer'd Resignation be not Accepted but that he be order'd to do his Duty in the Field & that as a mark of Disgrace he be sent for in towards the September Dispatch, and order'd to Europe.

As Captain Kilpatrick seems Doubtfull whether his Wounds may not be some hinderance to his taking the Command in Case Major Lawrence should be oblig'd to quit it, & as the Brevet Agreed to be given Captain Kilpatrick to act as Major was only intended to take Place in case the Major should quit the Field that the Army might not be destitute of a Leader which is agreeable to the Majors Proposal it is agreed that a Brevet for Captain Killpatrick to act as Major be drawn out & sent to Major Lawrence to be by him deliver'd to Captain Killpatrick in Case he (the Major) should be obliged to leave the Army, and that Captain Killpatrick should then be in Condition to take the Command, otherwise that the Brevet be cancelled as it will then be necessary to grant one to some other Officer.

Captains Forbes & Campbell write that they were arriv'd with Mauphoos Cawn & their Respective Partys at Pollure between Chittaput & Trinomelee & that Mauphis Cawn being in expectation of receiving some Money from the Killedar of Pollure insisted on halting there the 16th. but that they proposed to proceed the next Day.

Captain Gaupp at Chingalaput writes the 15th. Instant at Day break a party of Enemy set fire to several Villages near that Fort & were driving off a great Number of Cattle upon which he detach'd a Party from the Garrison who came up with them & retook near Seven Hundred head of Cattle. that he is inform'd another Party of 600 Morattas from Wandewash having divided themselves into small Platoons have drove off above four thousand Head of Cattle. That he has confin'd three Persons belonging to the Villages who being accused of holding a Correspondence with and making Presents to the French Amuldar at Allambaca have confess'd the Fact, whereon he desires our Orders.

Agreed that he be directed to punish them severely at the Head of the Garrison & then release them.

Captain Howes writes that he is inform'd about one Hundred French Eight Hundred Seapoys & Eight hundred Horse are incamp'd within three Miles of Wandivash and that part of the Horse are in the Pay of the Vellour Phousdar. The President having wrote Mr. Dupleix upon the information of Ramarow the Tanjore Vackeel (as may be seen in the French Correspondence) touching some Offers that had been made the King of Tanjore by Madam Dupleix which Mr. Dupleix denied & enclosed Copies of Letters from the King of Tanjore also denying that he ever wrote any such Matter to the President, Mr. Palk on his departure for Tanjore was instructed to discourse with the King & learn the Truth of the Affair upon which the King finding himself closely press'd is drove to the Necessity of

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throwing the Blame on his disgrac'd Minister Succojee Naigue & now writes that when the President desir'd to know his Demands in order to support them at the Conference at Sadrass he order'd Succojee Naigue [*sic*] to write to Ramarow to acquaint the President with certain Proposals that Madame Dupleix had made to him at the Time of Chundasaib thrô the means of Aulam Cawn but Succojee Naigue instead of following his Orders wrote to Ramarow that Madam Dupleix had now promised him what is mention'd in those Proposals.

Mauphoos Cawn advises his Arrival at Chittaput from whence he intended to decamp the next Day & proceed forward, but is under great Difficultys on Account of the Pay of his Troops for upon a Calculation he finds that there is due to them upwards of two Lacks & twenty Thousand Rupees to the 21st. Instant out of which the Lack We have agreed to advance is to be deducted, besides which he shall be oblig'd after the 22 Instant to pay them 20 Days Wages in every Month, he therefore desires that Abdul Bob Cawn may be wrote to very pressingly to make proper Provision. he also writes that he has sent his Family to reside at Madrass & desires they may be taken care of.

Abdul Bob Cawn & Antazey Punt write from Arcot that the Cause of their continuing there till now was to get every thing ready to detach Danishmend Cawn with 500 Horse to Join Mahauphooz Cawn that he proposes to march in a Day or two & then he (Abdul Bob Cawn) intends to come to Conjeveram.

Letter from Murtas Ally Cawn enclosing Copy of the agreement he enter'd into on his part with Abdul Bob Cawn.

The abovemention'd Copy of the Agreement being wrote on a seperate Paper without any Attestation or Seal the President is desir'd to send it back to Murtas Ally Cawn to have his Seal affixed to it.

Ibrahim Ally Cawn Son of Jaffer Ally Cawn late Nabob of Rajahmundrum, gives an Account of the Situation of his Affairs in that Province & of his Distress for want of Money & desires that he may speedily be supplied out of the Produce of some Grain sent up here to be disposed of. The President acquaints the Board that there are about fifteen Garce of Paddy lying here belonging to Ibrahim Ally Cawn to be disposed of. Agreed that it be taken at the Market Price for the Company's Account.

The President acquaints the Board that Coja Nicoose & the Peguer who were charg'd with a Commission from the King of Pegue to discourse with us on the Subject of the Treaty of Friendship & Alliance, intend shortly to return to Pegue, Agreed that some Europe Curiositys be sent to the King & Uppa Rajah for Presents & that Presents of Cloth, Velvet, a Gun & Pistolls be also made to each of the Ambassadors.

The Substance of what the Ambassadors give us Reason to hope may be agreed on with the King, being digested in the Form of a Treaty a Draught thereof is now read as enter'd hereunder, Agreed that a Copy of it be sent to Mr. Brooke at the Negrais with Orders to press the Conclusion of it without further Delay, & that Letters be wrote to the King & Uppa Rajah acquainting them that We proposed to have sent them some Men & Guns but the Ship on which the Ambassadors return carrying French Colours the Honour of our Nation will not allow of their proceeding on that Conveyance & no other offers at present.

The following is Copy of the proposed Treaty Vizt.

A Treaty of Friendship and Alliance between the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies Subjects of his most Sacred Majesty George the Second by the Grace of God King of Great Britain, France and Ireland &ca. &ca. &ca. of the one part And the great King of Pegue Son of the Sun and Brother of the Moon & Stars of the other part.

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BE IT KNOWN unto all whom it may concern that the Parties abovemention'd wisely considering that the Riches of Kingdoms are derived from Commerce for the promotion & prosperity whereof it is necessary that Security & a free Intercourse should subsist between the Nations trading together, they the said Parties have for their mutual benefit & advantage Agreed on the following Articles.

1st.

The King of Pegue doth hereby for Himself his Heirs & Successors freely & absolutely Grant unto the said Hoñble United Company & their Successors the Island of Negrais which henceforth for evermore they shall & may peaceably & quietly possess & enjoy together with all benefits & advantages arising thereby.

2nd.

The King of Pegue for himself & his Successors doth also hereby freely and absolutely grant unto the said Hoñble United Company & their Succesrs. the Town of Persaim situate on the Bank of the River of Syrian together with a Piece of Tract of Ground round about the same of the following Extent Vizt. ... ... (here insert the dimensions of such a Spot of Ground as may be judged sufficient for the Convenience & support of the Inhabitants ... ...) which said Town & Ground the said Company & their Successors shall & may henceforth forevermore peaceably & quietly possess and enjoy together with all benefit & advantage arising thereby and with full Liberty to erect such Buildings thereon as they shall think fit.

3d.

The King of Pegue doth hereby for himself his Heirs and Successors freely & absolutely grant unto the said Honble United Company & their Successors and the Servants of the said Company the full & unlimited Privilege of trading in what kind of Goods or Merchandize they shall think fit at the Ports of Syrian, Pegue, Pron, Mortavan, Tangoore, & Don Bassey without any let or hinderance and free of all Duties or Customs whatsoever, provided that the Commander of every Ship arriving at either of the said Ports and claiming the above Privilege do produce before he can be entitled thereto; a Certificate Sign'd by the Governour of Fort St. George, Bombay or Bengal, respectively that the Goods on Board such Ships are the sole Property of the said Company or their Servants, but all Goods whatsoever belonging to Strangers or Persons not actually in the Service of the said Company shall pay the accustomed Duties.

4.

The King of Pegue doth hereby give and grant unto the said Honble United Company & their Successors & Servants the free Liberty of Employing such Artificers Workmen or Tradesmen of his Subjects as shall be willing to engage in their Service on paying them the usual and accustomed Wages & the King doth also hereby promise that he will publish to his Subjects free Liberty of engaging themselves in the said Company's Servise [*sic*] as aforesaid.

5.

The King of Pegue doth hereby promise that in Case any of his Officers or Subjects shall at any Time invade or molest the said Company or their Servants in any manner of wise or abridge them of any of the Priveleges of Trade herein before express'd, on due Complaint thereof made he will to the utmost of his Power without Delay protect & defend the said Company & their Servants & support them in the Exercise & Enjoyment of the said Priviledges.

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6.

In Consideration whereof the said Honble United Company do hereby promise and oblige themselves to present unto the King of Pegue Annually sōme European or other Curiosity as an Acknowledgement that they bear in remembrance the Kings Friendship in granting the said Island of Negrais & Town of Persaim to the said Company.

7.

The said United Company do hereby for themselves their Heirs & Successors fully & absolutely Grant unto the King of Pegue & his Successors & his & their Subjects the full & unlimited Priviledge of trading in what kind of Goods or Merchandize they shall think fit at the said Company's Ports of Fort St. George, Fort St. David, Deve Cotah, & Vizagapatam on the Coast of Choromandell or any other of the Companys Ports in India without any let or hinderance and free of all Duties or Customs whatsoever provided that the Commander of every Ship arriving at either of the said Ports and claiming the above Privelege do produce before he can be entitled thereto a Certificate under the Kings Chop that the Goods on board such Ship are the Sole property of the King or his Subjects.

8.

The said United Company do hereby for themselves and their Successors promise, & oblige themselves to aid assist & defend the King of Pegue and his Successors against all their Enemys by Sea & Land & for that Purpose to furnish such a number of Troops with proper Warlike Stores as the Occasion may necessarily require and the said Company can conveniently spare from the Defence & Protection of their own Terittories upon Condition nevertheless that the King shall defray the Wages & all Charges whatsoever of such Troops during the Time they shall be in his Service & pay for all Warlike Stores that shall be expended.

9.

The said United Company do further for themselves & their Successors promise, that in Case the King of Tavoy should at any Time hereafter take up Arms against the King of Pegue they will not on any Account give him the least aid or Assistance, but on the contrary they do oblige themselves to protect & defend the King of Pegue & his Dominions & Subjects to the utmost of their Power.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

25 Sign'd the following Letters from Mr. Henry Brooke Chief at the Negrais and Mr. Thomas Taylor Resident at Syrian & deliver'd them to Cojah Nicoose with the undermention'd Presents for the King & Uppa Razah & the usual Present of Cloth to himself & the other Ambassador.

To MR. HENRY BROOKE

Sir

We wrote you very fully under Date the 25th. March, Duplicate of which was forwarded by the Fortune Sloop. We had then just Time to advise You that Cojah Nicoose & a Peguer were arrived here in Quality of Embassadors from the King of

Pegue, in conferring with them we dont find they had any Conclusive Power but were commission'd to discourse with us on the Affair of the Negrais. We now transmit you the Substance of what they give us the Strongest Assurances to expect will be complyed with and depend on your Attention to bring Affairs to a speedy and Successfull Conclusion We have sent the King and Uppa Rajah a Present of some curiositys which as this Ship will import at Syrian We have directed Mr. Thomas Taylor with Cojah Nicoose to present to them this will be an Introduction for your Treaty what We have already wrote you & the Conference with these Embassadors will we trust be sufficient for your Government therein.

We have wrote the Gentlemen at Bengal to send a Ship to relieve the Egmont Captn. Tollson that she may be dispatch'd home in Season, and by her to send you supplys of Provisions &c.

Dont fail to give us as early advice as possible of the Progress you make that We may be able to communicate it to our Honble Masters by their Early Dispatch which at the utmost will not exceed the 10th. October wishing you Success We are, Sir, Your Affectionate Friends.

THOS. SAUNDERS. CHAS. BODDAM. HENY. POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
25th. July 1754

To MR. THOMAS TAYLOR RESIDENT AT SYRIAN.

Sir

Coja Nicoose being on his Departure for Syrian We take the Opportunity of sending by him a Letter to the King & one to the Uppa Rajah with Presents of some Curiositys as ℔ List inclosed on their Arrival you will accompany Nicoose to the King he has given us the warmest hopes that our Requests will be granted & soon concluded you will therefore press the immediate entering on the Affairs and advise Mr. Brooke that the Proper Steps may be taken to ratifie the Treaty. Write us by all opportunitys what occurrs enclosed are the Copy's of the Letters to the King and Uppa Rajah We are, Sir, Your Affectionate Friends. THOS. SAUNDERS. CHAS. BODDAM. HENY. POWNEY. ALEXR. WYNCH. JOHN SMITH. CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
25th. July 1754.

LIST OF PRESENTS TO THE KING OF PEGUE AND UPPA RAZAH SENT UNDER THE CARE OF COJA NICOOSE.

For the King

A Musical Clock	cost ...	Pags.	78–:–
A Curious Agate Cabinet set in Gold			330–:–
A Silver Mounted Gun			22–10–
A Pair of Silver mounted Pistols ...			:–15–29 *

For Uppa Razah

A Gold Repeating Watch curiously ornamented with Mocha Stone	Pags.	162–3–30
A Brass mounted Gun		13–25–4
A Pair Silver mounted Pistolls		15–29–:

* Thus in original. The real cost however was Pags. 15 fs. 29, vide next list of presents.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. JULY 1754.*——

26 Letters being receiv'd from Captains Forbes and Campbell advising that they had met with some Opposition from the Killedar of Pollure who fired upon some of our People who approach'd too near the Fort which was return'd on our Side, that this was occasion'd by Mauphoos Cawns pressing him hard for Money, that he is now using the same Means with the Killedar at Trinomelee, and both he & his People now declare they cannot proceed any further for want of Money to pay off the Arrears due to the Men & to secure them their future Pay.

At the same [time]? a Letter being receiv'd from Abdul Bob Cawn representing that the Occasion of the Disturbance at Polluri [*sic*] was that some of Mauphoos Cawns and our Troops actually enter'd the Pettah to plunder it and erected several Batterys on which the People of the Fort fired at them. That Jaffer Ally Cawn the Killedar has always been in the Nabobs Interest but it is to be fear'd the Behaviour of Mauphoos Cawn may disgust & induce him to Join the Enemy, he therefore desires the President will write to Mauphoos Cawn and Captains Forbes & Campbell to desist & send a Letter of Indulgence to Jaffer Ally Cawn. whereupon the following General Letter is now sign'd & sent.

To Captains Forbes & Campbell.

Gentlemen

The President has communicated to us your Letter date Trinomelly 21st. Instant advising of the Heat & Rains which have greatly impeded your March & that Mauphooz Cawn's People will march no further—neither Rains nor Heat have been excessive here & We have but too much Reason to complain that this Delay has been greatly owing to an imprudent deviation from our Orders which were to press Mahauphoos Cawn and march with the greatest Expedition instead of which a Step [*sic*] was made at Chittaput to collect Money Pollure was besieged, & another attempt to raise Money at Trinomely; from hence has not Sprung only a Loss of Many Days but by the ill usuage to these Killedars who before were quiet will probably Join with the Enemy 'tis in vain to say that Mauphoos Cawn did this, 'twas your Part to prevent & not assist him in it should this find you still at Trinomely deliver him the a Companying [*sic*] Letter & desire his final Resolution if he does not march acquaint him you must & do you proceed without him advising the Major by Express of your Route We are, Gentn Your Affectionate Friends.

Thos. Saunders. Chas. Boddam. Henry. Powney. Alexr. Wynch. John Smith. Chas. Bourchier.

Fort St. George
26th. July 1754.

27 Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence.

To Stringer Lawrence Esqr. Commander in Chief of all the Honble Company's Forces in India.

No 18. Sir

Yesterday the President receiv'd a Letter from Captains Forbes & Campbell dated the 21st. Instant from Trinomelee advising that Mauphoos Cawn would march no further by the inclosed Advice from Abdul Bob Cawn you will perceive the Occasion of so long a Delay this is not the only though a very aggravating Circumstance for by ill treatment this [*sic*] Killedars will probably be induced to join the Enemy We cannot think Captns. Forbes & Campbell wholly inexcusable their Orders were to facilitate the March & certainly should not have join'd with Mahauphoos Cawn in those attempts as We cannot Rely on him We have agreeable to what you wrote us orderd Captns. Forbes & Campbell if Mauphoos Cawn refuses to march to proceed without him, to advise you of their Rout & follow such Directions as they shall receive from You.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 27TH. JULY 1754.*—— [27TH.]

Inclos'd is Translate of a Letter to the Nabob. Mahauphoos Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn's Conduct is such that if not prevented by him must greatly distress his Affairs this he will endeavour to evade but as it is absolutely necessary please to press him to it. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants, THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
27th. July 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

MONDAY THE 29TH.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

No. 59.

I am glad Gentlemen you do Justice to my Sentiments, by approving of my Letters of the 24th. Ultimo to you & the President; And no doubt We shall feell [*sic*] the good Effects of our mutual Resolutions. I deferr'd for some time answering that Letter of the 3d. In hopes of giving you some certain Accounts from Morarow ; in the mean time your Favour of the 6th. came to hand.

My Opinion on the Negociation with the Mysore Dalloway, (the Principal Object of our Concern,) you have had as fully, & freely as my Judgment, and Knowledge would permit me, or enable me to give it. It is impossible for me to say I approve of that Step : tho' I still own I have no other Scheme to offer. But the same Objections that at first were made, and approv'd off by us, Against that Treaty ; still subsist & with the same Force as ever.

A Recapitulation of those Objections are needless ; but to them may be added the uncertainty of an Alliance which will plainly appear we have only consented to thrô' Necessity ; after having obstructed & opposed it, by all the means in our Power. If We have been in the right to support the Nabob in the breach of a Promise, extorted from him by Force ; that Right still Subsists. Would not an Accomodation now look as if we werse [*sic*] sensible we had been acting from a Principle not founded on equity And to give up a Thing We have so long struggled for, just in the Time the Justice of our Cause is going to be tryed by a fair Treaty ; or by the Support the Kingdom is pleased to grant us by a Military Force ; should the Way of Negociation prove of no Effect to settle our differences.

We can make no Peace, unless our Debt is consider'd & the Money secured to us ; & I believe you will allow, It would better be secured by any othor Method if possible than that one. The Twelve Month which at least must be given before We can receive the Money ; may be productive of Events much in our Favour. But should it be otherwise ; The King of Mysore I am afraid would be but too fond of flying off from a Promise, which was likely to cost him so much ; could it be got at a more easy Rate in his Opinion ; by Violence, or Treachery. The Securitys you would endeavour to bind him with could be but of little Strength ; without a sufficient Force on our Side to support our Pretensions. If we are Prosperous the Place must be the Nabob's, the King of Tanjore our Friend, & our Name in the Country (which is no small thing in the Opinion of these People) free from Stain or Blot.

[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 29TH. JULY 1754.*——

If pacifick Measures take place the Treaty will be partly concluded at home; & if the giving up Trichinopoly to the Mysore, is by them made an Article; it is their own doing, if not, the desire they have that Agreement should take place, is a Sanction to us to do it, should We not like the other Means propos'd by the Enemy for the Security of our Debt. That offer always remains to be made.

These Gentlemen are my Sentiments in this uncertain Period; Fluctuating as We are, between Peace & War. From what I have said, I hope you are convinced of its meaning: that by comparing our Opinions together, and what things Occur, fairly stated on both Sides; You may be the better able to come to some Resolution, and whatever it is, believe me I shall Endeavour to forward it, with all the Zeal & heartiness you could wish me to pursue any thing, that was for the Good, & Honour of the Company; which I am sure We have all much at Heart.

The Troops should they arrive, are very properly order'd to Rendezvous at St. David what further is to be done with them I cannot yet say; For by the Enemys Motions, We must be guided. I am strong enough when Mauphoos Cawn Joins to act on the offensive; & should the Enemy even receive a Reinforcement before ours arrives; I shall be able to act on the defensive. I beg you will please to send the Brevet for Captain Killpatrick, as soon as Convenient: For it is not impossible, but I shall divide my Force; & it would be proper he should be at the Head of the one, while I remain with the other. You Judge very right as to Deve Cotah; reinforce that Place as soon as Possible.

I had Letters from Conjeveram about the same Date as yours, with the same Accounts of their being to march speedily, which I hope may be true. Morarow's Vacquel left us on the 12th after paying me a Visit, and assuring us his Masters Intentions were Sincere. The Bills for the Money, & the Agreement between him, and the Nabob are also gone; & every Minute We hope to hear he has been as good as his Word

In my Letter of the 24th. to the President I made mention of the Arcot Province. In your Answer you Acquainted me, The Governour had before taken the necessary Precautions. We have no room to be pleased, or much to trust on Abdul Bob Cawns way of acting, or the Promises he may make. Would it not be better to apply to the Nabob directly for an Order; to set a part [*sic*] such a District of the Country; for the Payment of his Troops; And We take to [*sic*] it on our Selves, to see his Orders obeyed. It is [*sic*] my Opinion the only way, should the War continue, to ease in some Measure the Expence of it.

Should it be found convenient after my Arrival at Trichinopoly to remove the Prisoners, If you approve of it, I shall do it. The dividing of them between Fort St. George & Fort St. Davids to me seems the safest Way. It would also be necessary if the War goes on, That the Nabob's Family should be removed from the Place. The Number of Idle Mouths attending on, and oblig'd to be maintain'd by them is the Cause of a great deal of Grain expended out of our Magazine.

Mr. Herdmans Appointment as there was a Mistake & no Vacancy, cannot take Place of those two Gentlemen you mention, nor of Mr. Stewart whom you knew was a coming out to succeed. But as ye were ignorant of these other three Gentlemen, Till the Genl. Letter which was after the appointment; I do not think his succeeding after the three first is clashing with the Company's Orders; which of all things we should most carefully avoid. An Appointment for an acting Officer in the Field should certainly in my Opinion, take Place of a Warrant appointing to succeed to Vacancys; on, or after their Arrival. There are no Vacancy's in Fact, When Appointments are made by you; nor do I believe it is the Intention of the Company to supercede any you may have made Officers, before you knew of their Appointments. But those sent out; to succeed in turn, when your Prior Regulations have taken Place. However I submit this to your Judgmt: Mr. Herdman must have Patience, & may continue doing Duty as an Officer, but for a Commission he must certainly wait for three, perhaps Six, before he can get it.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 29TH. JULY 1754.*—— [29TH.]

I think Captn. Charles Campbell in this Affair has acted unlike an Officer or a Soldier. If he comes to camp I shall tell him so. If not; you may Please to show him my Opinion. Indeed before this happen'd he was disgusted on Account of his being disappointed as to Rank, By the Officers coming out last Year, who succeeded to Commissions he thought he had a Right to. By that means also many of the Bombay Captains commanded him. For which Reason he wrote me Word, he intended giving up his Commission, after he had join'd me with this Detachment. My answer was. that I looked on the Affair of last Year certainly as an Hardship, but that his Complaint now was made at an improper Time. I told him he should apply to you Gentlemen, When he came down to Madrass, for Redress if he thought himself injur'd. That the World would look on it oddly, that after Six Months laying by, just as he was order'd on Service, he should Chuse that Time, to repeat his Grievances, and Stickle for his right. But Gentlemen: would you support Yourselves in your Power with Dignity, & do Justice to the Service never let any one of those Gentlemen stay a Minute in your Service; That offer to lay down their Commission upon every Trifle.

I should be oblig'd to you if in your Answer you will let me know, what is to be done with Peremranze; who yet remains Prisoner.

I return you my Thanks for your good Intentions towards Captn. Howes. I thought it necessary to appoint an Officer in his Absence to look after the Troop. The Gentleman is Baron Vasent Lieutenant in the Bombay Detachment. His Skill & Judgment in Horses, besides his Character as an Officer made me think him the properest Person for it. I hope it may meet your Approbation.

The Length already of this Letter must excuse my taking Notice of some of the Extracts in the General Letter from home. I shall do it in my next. I am, Gentlemen, Your most obedient & most Hble Servant

Camp near Tanjore
15th. July 1754. S: LAWRENCE.

The main Point which requires particular Observation in the Majors Letter is the proposed Treaty with the Dalloway which the Board are still of Opinion should be concluded or at least attempted as soon as Possible for the Reasons often repeated in these Occurrences. As to those offer'd against it in the Majors foregoing Letter the Board differ in Opinion from them in some Respects, in the first place it is urged that the same Objections which were first made against that Treaty still subsist. The Case is very different now from what it was at the Time the Mysoreans first declar'd their Pretensions to Trichinopoly, The French had just met with so severe a Blow at Syringham that it was reasonable to imagine our then late Series of Successes would have deterred the Mysoreans destitute of any European Force from pursuing their Point with such Constancy, & shortly after when the French were reinforc'd and again appeard in the Field we were induced to decline the Surrender of the Fort by the confirm'd Advices from all Parts that Gauzede Cawn was appointed by the Mogul to the Government of Decan & would shortly come & settle this Province, he wrote us so himself and caution'd us against parting with it, this was not a meer Chimera for he actually did set out shortly after at the Head of a numerous Army of Horse and Foot but was poisoned before he reached Aurungabad, We were then amus'd a long Time with the Hopes that notwithstanding his Death Ballazerow would proceed on this Expedition, he gave us repeatedly the strongest Assurances that it was his Intention and press'd us to be firm and not to yield up the Fort, We found ourselves after some time deceived in our expectations of him, but till then the Hopes of his Assistance and that of Gauzede Cawn's Son who we were told was appointed to Succeed his Father in the Subahship of Decan influenced Us, at the same time a General Discontent which appeard in Salabad Jing's Army against the French and their Measures, our Victory at Bawoor, & some Advantages gained in several Skirmishes added to our Consciousness that as the Nabob had no real Right to give up the Fort We might in future

[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 29TH. JULY 1754.*——

be called to an Account by the Circar for assisting in the Allienation of it—all these were powerfull Motives for our Resolution to maintain the Fort, but the Case is far different now We are for surrend'ring because We cannot well maintain it. The Nabobs Debt to the Company is swell'd to a Prodigious Sum, Experience has shewn Us that any Assistance from Ballazerow is vain, Salabad Jing is in full Possession of the Province & can deny the French Nothing, the Mysoreans who have already expended perhaps two Cro[r]se of Rupees Continue obstinate, their Treasures are not yet exhausted, and it is not reasonable to imagine that after so immense an Expence they will give up the Point without some equivalent when they are yet in a Condition to Contest it, and no other equivalent can be given them, 'tis true when Mauphoos Cawn & the Bombay Party Join the grand Army, it may be Superiour to the Enemy, but how long it may remain so is uncertain, the Recruits receiv'd this Year from Europe are far Short of what might reasonably have been expected, & Experience has shewn us that the French are always much more plentifully supplyed, at all Events they may recall de Bussy's Army from Salabad Jing which will at any Time give them the Superiority, & the Danger Trichenopoly has already been in thrô want of Provisions & the Difficulty of throwing in any Quantity when the Enemy are Superiour ought to deter us from putting it again to that Risque, the Nabob's Debt to the Company is dayly encreasing, the Conclusion of the Treaty with the Dalloway will secure it, nor will any one Advantage of Trade be lost to the Company by it, The Treaty on Foot in Europe is not to be depended on, We are directed to be on our Guard, & the Accomodation with the Dalloway is strongly pressed by the Company, which thô it may not end the War will put it in our Power to wage it with advantage.

Another Reason offer'd against an Accomodation with the Dalloway, is that after having so long opposed him it will be plainly seen that We come to Terms only through Necessity if this were admitted as a Just Argument against a Peace it must also be confessed that after a War once declar'd between two Powers it could scarce ever cease till one of them were absolutely conquered because if either Party were to gain an Advantage it would (by a paralel Reasoning) be imprudent to trust the Antagonist because he might be supposed to Submit thrô Necessity to terms which at first he opposed or disliked, but the contrary is seen every Day & indeed it is the most common Basis of Peace. It is further said that if We were ever in the Right to support the Nabob in the breach of a Promise extorted from him by Force that Right still Subsists. It has already been shewn that the Circumstances of Affairs are extreamly different, now from what they were then, how far in point of Equity We ought to have interfered is a Subject that has not till now been started and indeed too often gives way to the Policy of Government, in the present Case there seems to be but little Equity on either Side of the Question, for on the one Hand it is not very conformable to the Laws of Justice to support the Nabob in the absolute Violation of a Solemn Promise & Engagement, on the other Hand the Deviation from Equity would be as great were We to oblige the Nabob or be instrumental to his performing his Promise when 'tis to give away what he has no Right to but is the absolute Property of another, as is the Fort of Trichinopoly to the Mogul, but this at present seems to be out of the Question 'tis plain not the Equity of the Disputes between the Country Powers but Self Preservation and Self Interest (Motives that Influence the great Councils of Nations) were our Inducements for taking part in the present troubles and our Plan may not be found quite Void of Equity when it is consider'd that the Laws of Self Preservation oblige us to ward off a Blow aimed by the most desperate Enemy to our Nation at the very Root of our Commerce and Possessions on this Coast, such have been the Motives of our Actions, and such must determine our future Measures conforming still as nearly as Possible to the general Laws of Equity & Reason. These Arguments may perhaps be too Honest to be used to the World but they are Arguments that must naturally flow from every Discerning Mind. The Objection against the Security for Payment of the Nabobs Debt must vanish at once when 'tis remember'd that it does not depend in the least on the Dalloways Faith at the Expiration of the 12

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, 29TH. JULY 1754.*—— [29TH.]

Months, but that it is to be secured by the Soucars at this Settlement and the Fort is to remain in our Possession till the Debt is paid. As to the other Parts of the Majors Letter the Board concurr in Opinion with him & have already propos'd the removing of the Prisoners & the Nabob's Family from Trichenopoly as soon as it can be conveniently done, 'tis also agreed for the Reasons offerd by the Major that M^r. Erdman have the first Ensign's Commission that shall become Vacant after Mr. Steuart is provided for. in regard to Peremrauze, it has already been signifyed to the Major that his Crime seemed to us to deserve Fine or imprisonment, but his Punishment was submitted to the Major, & it is resolved still to leave it to him as there may be Circumstances in his Favour which We are not acquainted with. The Board approve of the Majors Appointment of Lieutenant Vassert to the Command of the Troop of Horse.

General Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. read as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq^R. President & Governour &c^A. Council of Fort S^T. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 11th. Instant inclosing a Letter under a Flying Seal directed "To the Admiral or Commander in Chief of a Squadron of his "Majesty's Ships of War expected shortly to arrive on this Coast" which on the arrival of the Squadron shall be deliverd, and such Directions as Your Honour &c^a. have been pleased to give with Regard to his Majesty's Officers shall be strictly complied with.

Harmony is certainly very essential for obtaining Success, Whatever Civilities therefore can be shewn by me to every one of his Majesty's Officers Your Honour &c^a. may rely on, as well as on my Endeavours to procure them the best Accomodations the Place will afford. You are pleas'd to direct a Genteel Table to be kept at the Company's Expence for the Commander in Chief of the Squadron, but do not say whether he is to be furnish'd with a Pallanquin & proper Attendants which I must request to be inform'd of.

We have but two Mussoolahs belonging to this Place which will not be near sufficient for the Service of the Squadron, You will therefore please to send us as many as you can spare.

I have orderd Preparations to be made for the Reception of the Land Forces, but as Cuddalore is the properest Place to lodge them in, I could wish to have your Honour &c^a's. Permission to rent a sufficient Number of Houses for that Purpose.

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you that every thing relating to the Garrison is in good Order; Such Military Stores as are decayed or useless shall be replaced with new as soon as your Honour &c^a. are pleased to comply with an Indent that shall be sent You, and your Directions in regard to the Number of Cartridges shall be strictly complyed with. I am with Respect, Honble Sir & Sirs Your most obedient humble Servant Rich^D. Starke.

Fort S^t. David
18th. July 1754.

Agreed that M^r. Starke be directed to furnish the Commander in Chief of the expected Squadron with a Pallanquin & proper Attendants. That two Mussoolahs be built at S^t. David & that M^r. Starke be acquainted We do not approve of hiring Houses in Cuddalore for the expected Land Forces as that would run the Company to a very great Expence but that they be quarterd as when Admiral Boscawen was here.

Letter from Capt^ns. Forbes & Campbell advising that they were arriv'd with Mauphoos Cawn and the Forces at Trivedy, & that Mauphoos Cawn insisted on going to Fort S^t. David to receive the 50,000 Rupees promised him on his Arrival at Deve Cotah without which he could not proceed.

[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 29TH. JULY 1754.*——

Agreed that the Gentlemen at Fort St. David be directed to advance the 50,000 Rs. to Mauphoos Cawn on his promising to proceed immediately to Join the Army.

Letter from Nabob Annaverde Cawn Behauder enclosing a Phirmaund in the Name of Thomas Saunders alias Rustum Jung for the Killee of Poonemalee & fourteen Villages as a Jagueer annex'd to the same. Agreed that the Villages be let & that the present Renter of Poonemalee have the preference.

Letter from Murtas Ally Cawn enclosing a Copy of his Agreement with Abdul Bob Cawn Seal'd with his Seal ; & desiring in return a Letter of Indulgence, agreed that it be sent him.

The Commissary reports that he had received ten Thousand (10,000) Rupees more from the Amuldar of Tripossore making in all Fifty Thousand Rupees, & that Ten Thousd: more are now due.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

31 T. Sent the following General Letter to Richard Starke Esqr.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY
GOVERNOUR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

In Answer to your Letter of the 18th. Instant we are to acquaint You that it is our Intention the Commandr. in Chief of the Squadron should by all Means be furnish'd with a Pallanquin & proper Attendants.

We have in a General Letter of this Date given Directions for building two new Mussoolahs.

The hiring of Houses in Cuddalore for the Reception of the Land Forces would run the Company to a very great Expence, when Admiral Boscawen Arriv'd the Men were quarter'd there free of Charge & the same Method had better be practised again when the expected Fleet arrives ; For We are very desirous of avoiding every Expence that is not absolutely necessary. We are, Sir, Your Affectionate Friends, & Servants THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
31st. July 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present.

AUGUST MONDAY THE 5TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Monsr. Godeheu at Pondicherry dated the 1st. Instant advising his Arrival there with full Power from the King and the French Company in Quality of Commander General of all the French Settlements on both Sides the Cape of good Hope, that he is come with a Sincere Intention to Endeavour to pacify the Troubles in India, that as an Example of his Sincerity & moderation he sets at Liberty the Troops which Mr. Dupleix caused

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 5TH. AUGUST 1754.*—— [5TH.]

heretofore to be stopp'd in their Passage from Madrass to Fort St. David. That as Nothing is more uncertain than the fate of Arms, & new Acts of Hostility on which side soever the Advantage may turn will only serve to inflame he proposes a Suspension of Arms during which each Nation is to remain in their present Condition & that a Day be agreed on for publishing the same at the head of the Troops of both Nations, which will afford a proper Opportunity for Exchanging the Prisoners.

The Board are of Opinion that in regard to Captn. Schaub's Party which Mr. Godeheu offers to release Captn. Schaub should be order'd to deliver Mr. Godeheu a compleat Roll of the Detachment when first detain'd expressing what Casualties have since happen'd by Death & Desertion and such as have been inveigled into the French Service and that Mr. Godeheu be acquainted as these Men were seized contrary to Treaty We may consider it as a Mark of his Sincere Intentions if he will supply the Place of such as have been induced to enter in their Service, by as Many of the English Prisoners. In regard to the suspension of Arms the Board are of Opinion that in the present Situation of Affairs it will be much more Advantagious to the French than to us, for it will be some time before the Men lately landed from three Ships arriv'd at Pondicherry can be disciplin'd and take the Field in the mean time the Bombay Detachment may Join the Major & put it in his Power to gain some considerable Advantages. but if a Suspension should take Place & both Nations remain in their present Condition We are entirely Ignorant what Number of Forces the French expect & what are their real Intentions, the Provisions in Trichinopoly will be consuming without our being at Liberty to throw in a proper Supply so that if a Peace should not take Place the Disadvantage will be all on our Side, & as the Anson may be hourly expected with fresh Advices from Europe in relation to the Treaty of Peace that the Board are of Opinion that the Suspension had better be procrastinated for a Time but that Mr. Godeheu be assur'd of our Sincere Intentions to promote a Peace.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

No. 60

Honble Sir & Sirs

To Morrow I move from Tanjore, & hope to pursue my March with Monojee to Trichenopoly.

The last Accounts from Mauphoos Cawn was of his being on the 15th. at Trinomelee. I have wrote to Mr. Starke (For Fear that wanting Remainder of the Money which is to be paid at St. David's should make him come out of his Road) that he should send it to Deve Cotah, Advising Mauphoos Cawn of it; and further that if he chuses, it shall be paid any where Else he will please to order it, or be ready for [him] here in the Hands of Buckanjee. This is to prevent the Continual Delays he is so fond of, as much as in our Power.

We have receiv'd Advice & pretty strongly attested, that Morarow has seized upon fifty Thousand Pagodas which were coming to the French. And that he has another Party in the Serringapatam road to stop what supplies of that kind may come from thence. These would be signal Acts of Service to us.

I shall give you early Notice of all my Motions and am, Gentlemen, Your most obedient & hble Servt.

Camp 24th. July 1754. S. Lawrence.

Mauphoos Cawn having refus'd to March, with[t]: the Arrears of his Troops were paid off & their future Pay secured to them on which the Detachment commanded

[5TH·] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 5TH AUGUST 1754.*——

by Capt^{s}· Forbes & Campbell having been oblig'd to proceed without him Agreed that the fifty Thousand Rupees already advanc'd be demanded of him as they were lent only upon his promise of Joining the Major.

Order'd that a Copy of M^{r}· Godeheu's Letter be sent the Major & a Draft of a Letter to him being now read an Addition is order'd to be made thereto agreeable to what is above resolv'd in relation to M^{r}· Godeheus Proposals.

Agreed that ten Thousand Pagodas be remitted to Camp by Bills as soon as they can be procured.

THO^{S}· SAUNDERS.
CHA^{S}· BODDAM.
HENR^{Y}· POWNEY.
A^{R}· WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^{S}· BOURCHIER.

Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence enclosing one to Captn· Killpatrick with a Majors Brevet to be deliver'd him when Occasion may require.

TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^{R}· COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF ALL THE HONBLE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

No. 19. We have receiv'd your Letters of the 10th· & 15th· & wrote you the 27th·

We are entirely of your Opinion with Regard to Lieut^{t}· Monchanins behaviour; if you will keep him in Camp for some time We propose to Order him hither towards the September Dispatch & send him to Europe, as an Example to others.

If Captn· Campbell was disgusted he never spoke of it to the President on the Contrary thanked him for his Commission he was favour'd with a detach'd Post, remain'd their [*sic*] many Months & till he was agreeable to your Desire order'd on Command never express'd publickly any Dissatisfaction but on his going out told the President his Health was such that he could not stay at Trichinopoly. We suppose therefore he will immediately return when We shall enquire into his Conduct.

Lieutenant Patterson writes from Pondicherry he will Endeavour to get his Parole to clear himself of the Charge against him.

M^{r}· Bonjeur will have a Commission after those are provided for who stand before him, We shou'd be oblig'd to you if you will inform us when any of the Swiss Gentlemen or others enter with You as Volunteers in our Corps, that We may give them their proper standing on our List.

You are pleas'd to say that you cannot possibly approve the Negociation with the Dalloway though you have no other Scheme to offer that the same Object^{ns}: which were at first made by us still subsist. We apprehend not—for the Nabob then wrote us positively he would not agree to it & certainly We had no right to compel him but since he has told us that he is not able to support the War & dictated the Terms to us as Mediators to negociate with the Dalloway these Terms are nearly comply'd with in Vencatrow's Proposals besides M^{r}· Dupleix declares he will give Trichinopoly to the Dalloway himself & therefore as You & We concurr that there is no other Step to be taken We think it wou'd be better to do it while We can for Vencatrow has deliver'd a Remonstrance wherein he setts forth his repeated Endeavours of an Accomodation & desires if We do not accede to them that the Proposals may be return'd him and 'tis our Opinion that when the French Ships arrive We shall not be able to get these very Terms and therefore intend as soon as the Armies have join'd to attempt them We wish the Gentlemen in Europe may Succeed in their Treaty but the Measures the French have already pursued & the sending Monsr· Godeheu abroad carry with them a strong Presumption that they intend no conclusion in Europe, & how far M^{r}· Dupleix may influence and how much the finding their Affairs in a more favourable Situation may affect Monsr· Godeheus Pacifick

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, 5TH. AUGUST 1754.*——— [5TH.]

Dispositions is what, we may greatly apprehend on our sending abroad a Squadron & Land Forces 'tis reasonable to conclude the French will do the same when the Superiority will be still greater against us, no general Peace can be concluded without the French if they decline the War must subsist & certainly our only Measure is to draw off the Country Powers which can be effected no other way & as We have often experienced that all Treaties with Morarow are fruitless the Dalloway being the best able to purchase him this will secure him also these are our Sentiments as soon as ever the Situation of the Army will allow us to enter on them please to advise us.

Inclosed is a Majors Brevet & a Letter to Captn. Killpatrick which if no urgent Necessity presses We should be glad you would keep by you a few Days, as 'tis talk'd a Major will be sent out & in that Case for Captn. Kilpatrick to enjoy the Post only a few Days would be rather an Injury to him than a Service as he would by this be render'd incapable of acting again as a Captain of this we must very Soon be on a Certainty.

As you had appointed Mr. Erdman to act as Ensign before the Arrival of those from Europe and approve his Conduct We consent to his having a Commission before them when a Vacancy happens.

When the Squadron was abroad before a heavy Expence fell on the Company & yet few were satisfyed we have therefore now come to a Resolution to have a Genteel Table for the Admiral only & he may invite whom he Pleases. We should be glad of your Opinion.

You'l find We have wrote the Nabob concerning several Districts in the Arcot Province please to desire he will affix his large Seal to these Grants as well as to one for the Killee & Jagueer of Poonemalee, what he sent being seald with a small one.

The Removal of the Prisoners, Nabobs Family & flinging Provisions into Trichenopoly are three very Principal Points & the sooner done the better.

Please to inflict on Peremrauze a Punishment you think adequate to his Crime.

Monsr. Bussy tis said is arrived with his whole Camp at Elure or Metchlepatam & is shortly expected at Rajahmundrum, Mr. Westcott at Ingeram has been summon'd by Juggapettarauze to deliver to Mr. Bussy the French Chief at Yanam (who he Says is properly empower'd by Mr. Bussy Nabob of that Province) Sundry Towns which the Company possess by Virtue of Cowles from Viziaram Rauze Rajah of that Country, Mr. Westcott has refus'd to comply & We shall order him to persist in that Resolution to the last Extremity.

This Letter was prepar'd thus far, when We this Morning receivd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu of which We enclose you a Copy the first Articles that require our Immediate Consideration are the Suspension of Arms he proposes, and his delivering up Captn. Schaubs Party, As to the first it seems to Suit their present Circumstances much better than ours, they have two or three Ships just arriv'd with a supply of Men but how many We cannot yet learn, it must take them up some Time before they can be disciplin'd and be in a Condition to take the Field, in the mean time our Bombay Detachment may Join you and perhaps an Advantagious Blow may be struck, you'l observe further it is propos'd that during the Suspension both Nations are to remain in the same Situation in which they are at present by which Conditions We shall not be left at Liberty to throw any Provisions into Trichinopoly, the Garrison in the mean time will be consuming what is already there and if a Peace should not then take place the Fort must be drove to great Streights, so that all the Advantage of a suspension will be on their Side but not a single one on ours, such a Step is of too much Consequence to be hastily taken, their Views may be deeper than We at present can see, We are in Hourly expectation of further Advices from Europe by the Anson & therefore We think it would be most prudent to procrastinate the absolute Concurrence to this Proposal for a while, but at the

15TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 5TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

same time to express our readiness to promote a Peace which in reality we shall willingly & seriously labour at. There is a great Finesse in sending back Captn. Schaub & such of his Party as Remain at Pondicherry, it has an Air of Frankness & Sincerity whilst the Satisfaction offerd is no way equal to the Injury & Indignity receiv'd, perhaps not above one third or ½ of the Men who were seized are now at Pondicherry the rest have been inveigled into the French Service & are now with de Bussy, We propose to write Mr. Godeheu that We have directed Captn. Schaub to deliver him a Roll of all his Men who were unjustly seiz'd by Mr. Dupleix & if he will return us the whole Number or make up the Deficiency out of the English Prisoners We then shall consider this Action as a real mark of his good Intentions & shall be ready to take the most effectual Measures for restoring of Tranquility, some time will be spent in receiving his Answer & returning ours, in the mean time We shall be very glad if you will give us your Sentiments immediately by Express, as well as in regard to the Exchange of Prisoners.

The Gentlemen at St. David write us that Mauphoos Cawn absolutely refused to march & that our Detachmt. proceeded without him. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
5th. August 1754.

To JAMES KILLPATRICK ESQR.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 9th. & are pleas'd to see your cheerfull inclination for the good of the Company We now enclose you a Majors Brevet & shall be glad on all Occasions to shew our sense of your prudent Conduct We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 5th. July [*sic*] 1754.

5 In the Evening arrivd the Reverd Mr. Robt. Palk from the Court of Tanjore where he left Mr. Andrew Newton in charge of our Affairs.

6 Receiv'd a Letter from Captn. Schaub at Pondicherry advising that the 3d. Instant Mr. Godeheu was acknowledg'd at the Head of the Troops Commissary General & Governour General for the King, of the French Nation in India, that Mr. Godeheu receiv'd him very politely, & promised that he should depart in two or three Days with his Detachment for Madrass. Sent a Remittance of five thousand Pagodas to Mr. Andrew Newton at Tanjour for the use of the Army.

8 Sent another Remittance of five thousand Pagodas on the same Account.

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu dated yesterday agreeable to Resolution of last Consultation, also one to Captn. Schaub dated this Day directing him to deliver Mr. Godeheu a compleat List of his Detachment when they were first detain'd by Mr. Dupleix, expressing therein the Casualties since happen'd by Death, Desertion, & such as have been seduced into the french Service, & in Case Mr. Godeheu shall refuse to replace the two Latter out of the English Prisoners, to deliver a Protest, take his leave, & return hither.

9 Sent the following letter to Major Lawrence Vizt.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF ALL THE HONBLE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

No. 20. Under Date the 5th. Instant, We wrote You & inclos'd Copy of Monsr. Godeheu's Letter to the Presidt. We now send you the Reply tis Reported he has wrote to the

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 9TH. AUGUST 1754.*—— [9TH.]

Nabob if so 'twill be necessary to settle the Point whether the Nabob will negociate for himself or put that Confidence in us; the Latter seems the most proper. The President has wrote him & you have now Copy off the Letter as well as of one to the King of Tanjore please to discourse with him on the occasion & quicken him in returning an Answer.

We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants.

THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
Augst. 9th. 1754.

Arriv'd the Sloop Syrian from Pondicherry with part of Captn. Schaub's Detachment and a Letter from Mr. Godeheu advising that he return'd that Party agreeable to his Promise. 9

A Letter is also receiv'd from Captn. Schaub advising that one of the Chelingas going on board the Syrian with Part of the Detachment was drove on Shore but that he shall send them away & follow himself immediately.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT — MONDAY THE 12TH.
CHARLES BODDAM — HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH — JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

This Morning arriv'd the Ship Galatea from Pondicherry with Captn. Schaub & the Remainder of his Detachment accompany'd by Monsr. de St. Tolas an Officer of that Garrision sent by Mr. Godeheu with a Letter dated the 10th. at which Time he had not receiv'd the Presidents Answer to his Letter of the 1st. Instant so that concluding either the one or the other must have miscarried he sends a Duplicate by the said Officer for the greater Security, & desires that some Method may be propos'd for carrying on the Correspondence in future without delay, & advising that he had order'd the Galatea to put in here to land Captn. Schaub & the remainder of his Detachment.

To which an Answer is now Draughted acknowleding [*sic*] the receipt of his Letters & the Arrival of Captn. Schaub with the small Remains of his Detachmt. that We forbear at present any Remarks on those deficient as We hope soon to see that, & every Obstacle to a lasting Peace removed, that We shall in future send our Letters directly to Pondicherry by our Tappie Peons who set out from hence constantly every Day for St. David & if 'tis agreeable to him to make use of the same Conveyance We have a Set always posted at Bomayopollam.

General Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. read as follows.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 31st. Ultimo & shall put the Method you prescribe in regard to quartering the Land Forces at Cuddalore in Execution, but as the Captains & Officers of Admiral Boscawen's Troops had Lodgings provided by the Company (which upon enquiry I find they are always entitled to at Home & abroad) and Batta, or a Table found them— I shall be glad to know how I am to

[12TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 12TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

behave in those Particulars & in what manner the Commander in Chief of the Land Forces is to be receiv'd & lodg'd. The Want of a proper Provision may create Disputes & Uneasiness which I shall do my utmost to avoid, & for that very Reason request to have these Points settled. In the Year 1752. Four Chubdar Sticks were sent your Honr. &ca. by the Bombay Castle, Two of them will be wanted on the Arrival of the Admiral or Commander in Chief, You will therefore be pleas'd to forward them. I am with Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Fort St. George
6th. August 1753 [*sic*]. RICHD. STARKE.

Agreed that Mr. Starke be acquainted the Kings Officers of the Land Forces & the Men are to have the same Batta & Diet whilst they continue there as Admiral Boscawen's had after the Siege of Pondicherry Vizt. the Officers nine Pagodas ℔ Month for Diet, & the Men One Pound & an half of Rice, & four Billets of Fire Wood each Man ℔ Day besides Salt & Cooleys to dress their Victuals. That the Commander in Chief of the Land Forces lodged at that Time with the Admiral at the Garden House & the same Method must be us'd again, & in regard to the Honours to be paid him, on recourse to the Account of Powder expended in Salutes (which Book We have not here) it will appear what honours were paid Major Montpesant the Chief Officer of the Land Forces under Admiral Boscawen, & the same must be again practis'd, as to the other Officers We have already Directed that all the Land Forces are to be quarter'd in Cuddalore & therefore no other Lodgings are to be provided for them.

General Letters from Major Lawrence and Extract of another as follow No. 61.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

No. 61. Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Favour of the 18th. Mine unanswer'd are of the 10th. 15th. 23d. Instant Nos. 58. 59. 60.

Yesterday a Letter from Captns. Forbes & Campbell of the 24th. advised me that they were within a Day & a half's March of Trivedy.

It is impossible to form any Conjectures concerning Morarow; all We can do is to have a strict Eye over his Motions. As to his Intercepting Mauphus Cawn, It is a Shame if he does it. He still remains on the other Side of the Caleroon.

With relation to Captn. Dond. Campbell, I perceive we cannot understand each other. I am oblig'd to you however Gentlemen for your good Intentions to support me in my Command.

The Nabob has acceeded to part of your Demands, with regard to Phirmaunds. the Objections he makes to givg. the whole of what you ask, I cannot but think reasonable It is the Tripossore & Conjeveram Countries he would leave as they are, at least for some Time. The first is in Possession of Abdul Bob Cawn, who has three thousand Horse which are supported out of the Revenues arising from that Country; Should it be taken from him; The Arrears due to them Troops must be immediately paid off, or they may perhaps pay themselves by ruining the Country. As to the other; Mauphoos Cawn has made a demand of it for the Payment of his Force. The Nabob does not chuse to give him Such a District: but cannot at this Juncture of time refuse him directly, and has endeavour'd to Satisfy him for the present, without the Phirmaunds he asks. When once he has joyn'd he thinks he will be more at Liberty to Act, and with less danger to his Affairs; should he find his Brother still persisting in the Demand. However he says that he is quite convinced of your good Intentions towards him, that he submits to whatever you

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 12TH. AUGUST 1754.*—— [12TH.]

will please to determine. And if you can Raise those Objections, or think them not of sufficient force; he is willing, & ready to give you Phirmaunds for the whole as well as for the Part he now Sends.

Those he sends now are for the 7 Maganams consisting of 84 Villages in the Trepassore Country.

The Jagueers for the 15 Villages to the Killedar of Poonemalee Phirmaunds for Manamangolum, Covelong & Chingalaput Countries.

As you are come to a Resolution Gentlemen of making a Peace & only wait to know when my Situation will admit of your making your Offers I cannot say what Alterations may happen, but this is my present Situation. My Force in Battallion is superiour to the Enemy. as to Seapoys, & Horse, I believe, they exceed me. If they chuse to attack us, We shall not avoid, & if I find an Advantagious Opportunity, I will attack them. If neither of these Offers, I shall wait for Mauphis Cawn; & when join'd renew my Endeavours to bring them to a Battle, by having it more in my Power to distress them, or Force them to it by my Superiority. You now are Judges as with myself when to make your Proposals. I am ready to act in Consequence, and in Obedience to your Resolves.

Mr. Fraser's Account from Mr. Hopkins I have not yet receiv'd when it comes I shall do as you direct. In Answer to the Subadars Petition. I send you that Officer's Account of Cattle, & Money disbursed. If that is right I cannot think the Share the Gentleman has kept unreasonable. Had he been as unjust as they represent, I fancy other People such as our Military would have complain'd at so unequal a Division. It is hard for Officers who are not commonly the best Accountants in the World to keep regular ones. Nor can it be expected on such a Parties [?], that with the Duty in his Station is necessary to be done; An Officer cant have Time to keep Books. To prevent such Accidents for the future somebody may be sent with the Officer, to take care of that particular branch of Business.

Mr. Bishops Certificate is quite plain to succeed to the first Vacant Lieutenancy.

Inclosd I also send you a Letter and Indent from Doctor Willson which I beg leave to inforce, by assuring you his Demands are very just, & very much for the good of the Service that Gentleman's Assiduity & Care has been equal to his Trouble very great & too much for one man.

I am now within two Days' March of Trichinopoly, & hope to move from this in two or three Days; only waiting for the Remainder of Monagee's Force.

Captn. Polier's Petition requires by itself a pretty long Paragraph, I shall defer it till tomorrow. I am, Gentleman, Your most Obedient humble Servant

Achamputy Camp.
30 July 1754. S: LAWRENCE.

EXTRACT of the General Letter from Stringer Lawrence Esqr. dated at Palliput Camp the 3d. August 1754. the other part of it being on publick Affairs is enter'd after the publick Consultations of this Day. No. 62.

I wrote you in my last I was to march in two or three Days for Trichinopoly. After a Consultation with the Nabob & Monajee & the Day being fixed, Monajee seemd to hint that his People would be better pleas'd if We could wait for Mauphis Cawn I found it was in vain to argue with him & to force them when not in proper Spirits to march, & very likely that March attended with an Engagement I thought it not prudent to push it, or insist on it But consented to stay upon Condition they would assist me in getting Grain to make up a Magazine ready to be thrown into Trichenopoly, equal to the Consumption of Provisions, since We left that Place. This is now a doing & I hope soon to see Mauphus Cawn or our Detachment, who I have order'd to march if they find they are trifled with, which I much fear, As they were at St. Davids by my last Accounts a few Days will clear it up I mov'd my Ground yesterday for the Conveniency of Water about 3 Miles.

[12TH.] ——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, 12TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

In regard to the Objections the Nabob makes to the granting Phirmaunds for the Tripossore & Conjeveram Countrys the Board are of Opinion that thô they seem plausible yet they are not sufficient, for long experience has shewn that Abdul Bob Cawn is of great disservice to the Nabobs Affairs instead of supporting them & that those Revenues are squanderd away in debaucheries with a number of Women to whom he is entirely given up As to Mauphoos Cawn he has given a very recent Instance that his Views tend only to the amassing a Sum of Money & not to assist his Brother, besides it is of the utmost Consequence these Countrys should not on any Account fall under the management of the French & as a Treaty may probably be soon set on Foot 'tis not unlikely that they may demand them as a Security for Payment of the sums they have expended in the War but if those Countrys be granted before to us to secure the Debt due by the Nabob, such a piror [*sic*] Mortgage may be set up as a very reasonable Objection to a Demand of that kind from the French it is therefore agreed that these Reasons be offer'd to the Nabob & our Request repeated for Phirmaunds for the said Countrys as a Security for payment of the Debt due to the Company.

Letter from Doctor James Willson at Trichinopoly representing the hard Duty he is oblig'd to undergo for want of proper Assistants & the bad Consequences that might ensue in Case of any Accident to him, & enclosing an Indent for sundry Hospital Necessarys.

There being two Surgeons with Captn. Forbes Detachment agreed that Major Lawrence be desired to appoint one of them to assist M^r. Wilson in Trichinopoly, & that the Indent be sent to S^t. David to be complied with by the Gent^n: there.

Letter from Captains Forbes & Campbell advising their Arrival at Deve Cotah from whence they will continue their March with all possible Expedition to Join the Army.

Letter from Captn. Howes at Arcot enclosing one from Mortas Ally Cawn, and advising that M^r. Dupleix has constantly a Vackeel at Vellour and that it was reported a French Officer & twenty Europeans were coming from Gingy to be under those Walls.

Letters from the Killedars of Ternamel and Poloor in Answer to the President's giving Assurances that notwithstanding Mauphoos Cawn's Behaviour to them they will remain firm in the Nabob's Cause.

Nabob Anaverde Cawn encloses Copy of a Letter from his Vackeel in Salabad Jings Camp giving an Account of fresh disturbances at Delhi & that Shahabedy Gauzede Cawns Son had taken up Arms against the Mogul.

Letter from Vencatarow representing his Necessitys, the hardship of his Detention here & desiring that his Expences may defrayed or that he may be sent away.

Agreed that the Consideration of Vencatarow's Departure & the Treaty with the Dalloway be deferr'd untill some lights are had into M^r. Godeheu's Commission.

The Commissary Reports that he has receiv'd ten thousand (10,000) Arcot Rupees from the Amuldar of Tripossore on Account of the Lack he is to pay, making in all received Sixty Thous^d. (60,000) A Rupees.

THO^S. SAUNDERS.
CHA^S. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^R. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^S. BOURCHIER.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 19TH. AUGUST 1754.*—— [19TH.]

AT A CONSULTATION

Present.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

MONDAY THE 19TH.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence.

Letter from Captn. Gaupp at Chingalaput giving a particular Account of the Fortifications and Works about that Place with his Opinion on them & on the Repairs necessary to be done, the Sum of which is that unless the whole Wall round the Fort be demolish'd and a new one built it will be a useless expence to make any material Repairs, that the Chief Strength of the Place in its present Situation is the Glacis he therefore reccommends the perfecting of it without Delay, that in the South West front which he was permitted to set about on his Arrival there, he says will be finish'd by the end of the Month, but that in the West front including three Breaches in the faussbraye will take up near three Months, when this is compleated he thinks the Place may be defensible as long as the Provisions in it will last he adds that the Glacis is not only its chief Strength but will unalterably serve whatever apparent Alterations that may hereafter be made in the Body of the Place.

Agreed that Captn. Gaupp be directed to proceed in the Repairs according to the Plan he has laid down which appear to the Board very Judicious.

Letter from Captns. Forbes & Campbell advising their Arrival the 10th. Instant at Trimenadevour within two Days March of Tanjour, & that they were in hopes of Joining the Major in a very few Days.

Captn. Howes at Arcot writes that Nettee Cawn, one of Mauphoos Cawn's Jemmidars was return'd there with 500 Horse & had demanded thirty Thousand Rupees of Abdul Bob Cawn in such Terms as left room to apprehend some violent attempt, upon which he (Capt. Howes) sent him word that no Forces would be suffer'd to remain in those Parts but what were for the Service of the Nabob & that if he plunder'd or extorted any Thing from the Inhabitants he should be treated as an Enemy, he reply'd that he had no such Intent, which however is doubtfull. Capn. Howes also advises that the Nabob of Saätgudge died lately & that Abdul Bob Cawn was of Opinion a few Europeans & two Guns join'd with what Force he has ready may easily take the Place, that he had not given Abdul Bob Cawn a refusal but told him he could not well spare Europeans for the Guns.

Letters from Nabob Annaverde Cawn Behauder enclosing Saneds for Chingalaput, Covelong, & Mannamangalam Countrys & for 7 Magans containing Eighty four Villages of the Trippossore Country which run into the Poonemalee Country, which Sanneds are to remain in Force untill the Nabob's Debt to the Company is discharg'd, as to the Conjeveram Country he says Mauphoos Cawn demands it to defray the Charges of his Troops & the remainder of the Tripossore Country, with Nellore and Saravapelly &ca. are absolutely necessary for the support of Abdul Bob Cawn's Forces. In another Letter he encloses Copy of an Agreement with Morarow, who promises to depart this Province & return home & on his doing so the Nabob promises he will endeavour to settle the Chout of Arcot with Ballazerow agreeable to the regulation made by Nizam & also obtain a Phirmaund in favour of Morarow for Coatty, Pengonda, Colar, & Hoosacoata with their Countrys, & also Yadakey Yalanore and Tadapehy as a Jagueer.

Four Letters from Mauphoos Cawn all receiv'd the same Day complaining that Mr. Starke refus'd to pay him the fifty thousand Rupees which were promis'd him that his Troops became thereupon dissatisfy'd & refused to march, expressing an Inclination to proceed if any Method can be found to discharge the Arrears due to his Men.

[19TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 19TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

In answer whereto the President wrote him that he is certain Mr. Starke did not refuse to pay him the fifty thousand Rupees but on the Contrary offer'd it to him notwithstanding which he still delayed under fresh Pretences to proceed which determined Captains Forbes & Campbell to march without him.

Letters from Abdul Bob Cawn enclosing an Order on the Amuldar of Tripossore for one Lack of Rupees in Discharge of so much advanc'd or promis'd to be advanc'd Mauphoos Cawn Abdul Bob Cawn also writes that he has dispatch'd Danishmend Cawn with five Hundred Horse to the Nabob & deliver'd over the Districts of the two Conjeverams to Mauphoos Cawn's Agents for pay[ment of his Troops,] that he proposes very soon to move to [Conjeveram] where he desires to be join'd by an European Force to enable him to collect the Rents of the Province but first he thinks it absolutely necessary to reduce, Wandewash, Calava Dasore Castle & Talar.

A Petition of Walley Mahomed Cawn Amuldar of Tripossore representing that having receiv'd an Order from Abdul Bob Cawn to pay one Hundred Thousand Rupees to the Company he enterd into an Agreement to discharge the same at certain times & has actually paid 60,000 Rupees in part since which Abdul Bob Cawn has dismissed him which puts it out of his Power to discharge the rest he therefore desires either that he may be restor'd or that his Agreement be deliver'd up to him.

Agreed that Abdul bob Cawn be wrote to on the Subject.

The Tripoty Feast drawing near Agreed that a party of Europeans which have for some Time been at Poonemalee in readiness to Join Abdul Bob Cawn, be sent hither to protect the Place during the Feast and secure the Revenues.

Complaint having been made that Persons who have acted under the Nabob or his Agents & are either unable or unwilling to settle his Accounts, take refuge in the Company's Bounds to the Prejudice of the Circar It is agreed not to protect any Person who have Accounts to settle with the Circar & unjustly refuse to do so.

The President acquaints the Board that Captain Schaub since his return from Pondicherry having acted here as Commandant the Date of his Commission being prior to Capt Maskelynes, it is attended with an inconvenience as Captn. Schaub does not understand English he therefore proposes that Captn. Schaub be put in Orders for Camp & that Captn. Maskelyne act as Commandant to which the Board consent if on enquiry it be found consistent with Military Rules.

Sent the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr.

To Richard Starke Esqr. Deputy Governour of
Fort St. David.

Sir

On recourse to the Transactions when the King's Forces under the Command of Admiral Boscawen were in India We find that the Captains of the Land Forces were allow'd Nine Pagodas ℔ Month each & the Lieutenants Eight Pagodas ℔ Month for Batta, the Men had each One Pound. & an half of Rice & four Billetts of Fire Wood ℔ Day besides which they were allow'd Salt & Cooleys to dress their Victuals We would have the expected Land Forces put upon the same footing, but in regard to Lodgings for the Officers no other are to be provided than such as We have already directed, that is all the Forces without Exception are to be quartered in Cuddalore, Major Montpesson who had the Command of the Land Forces under Admiral Boscawen lodg'd with him at the Garden House, and those expected may be accomodated the same way. for the Honours to be paid We refer you to the Storekeepers Book which will shew you what was expended in Salutes & for whom.

The Chubdar Sticks shall be sent you. We are, Sir, Your Affectionate Friends.

Thos. Saunders, Chas. Boddam, Henry. Powney, Alexr. Wynch, John Smith, Chas. Bourchier.

Fort St. George
19th. August 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 20TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

Receiv'd a Letter, to the President from Monsr. Godeheu dated 16th. Instant enter'd in French Correspondence No. 15. 20.

Sent an Answer to Mr. Godeheu's Letter of the 16th. enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 16. 25.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

MONDAY THE 26TH.

The following General Letters from Major Lawrence read Vizt.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

No. 63.

I have receiv'd both your Favours of the 27th. July & 5th. August.

I have read Mr. Godeheu's Letter. We cannot tell his Intentions: But I own I dont expect much from the Pomp, & Gloss of his Epistle. If the seizing of Captn. Schaub's Party was; (as it certainly must be allowed) an Illegal act of Hostility; as well as an Insult to the English Nation. I think in consequence it ought to be apologised for by Mr. Godeheu: his releasing of them is but common Justice, not a Favour; & his Apology is requisite, & due for Satisfaction: & as you observe unless the Number which was taken is made up; either by returning those that have inlisted, or out of the Prisoners, The Offer he makes is no way adequate to our Loss, or Satisfactory for the Affront receiv'd by Mr. Dupleix's unwarrantable Proceeding.

It is common I believe before a Cessation of Arms is agreed on, that the Prelimenarys of a Peace at least are settled, if not sign'd. Let us offer ours, & Mr. Godeheu his. let them be respectively sign'd & then a Suspension may take place. But it ought to be a General one, all Parties concern'd included, & the Road to Trichinopoly clear.

With regard to his Offers of Exchange, Man for Man as far as they will go, alike for Officers, & Soldiers. His Pathetick Remonstrance with regard to ours, or the Nabob's treatment of their Prisoners, I think We can very well vindicate. & if Mr. Godeheu will not be prejudic'd, & listen to Truth & Justice; he will find in General they have deserv'd their Close Confinement.

Amongst the particular Circumstances. you may remember the treatment of Mr. Revell & Glass both Officers brought up to the breach with Halters about their Necks, & when the Enemy found they could not keep the Place, nor their Prisoners. they were both confin'd in a close Room, the Door made up with Brick. that had they not been found out by the Noise they made for Assistance, they must have perished for want. Indeed Mr. Glass did not long survive his Ill usuage. Mr. Cudmore & Davis when taken at Trivedy stripped even to their Shirts, & treated with great Indignity. But not to mention any more of these, & the Officers breaking their Paroles. Mr. Dupleix's eternal Schemes to make use of the Prisoners for his Designs; obliged us to the stricktest Care & watch over them. How many attempts have they made! natural enough one may say for Prisoners to attempt getting their Liberty; sure then it is but prudence in their Keepers, to prevent it & not Cruelty as he intimates.

Further with regard to the Prisoners I believe Gentn. this may be a proper time to make a Remonstrance from the Nabob & ease yourselves of the heavy Charge of maintaining them, by declaring the Nabob will no longer do it.

[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

To sum up the whole tho' I do not think his Letter promises much: yet Nothing ought to be neglected on our Side to forward the Pacifick Intentions he professes. For We well know how much it is our Interest, & Good, to listen to Peace.

I march for certain the 16th. or 17th. for Trichinopoly two Days will bring me there. I shall not avoid an Engagement, & I will attack If I find a good Opportunity. You may depend on the earliest Accounts of my Situation when I am able to be at any certainty about it myself. Then you may Judge the proper Time, & method to follow the Plan you have determined on. But I believe if a Peace can be made with the others it will be doing our Business more Effectually.

I return you my thanks Gentlemen for Major Kilpatricks Commission. My uncertain State of Health, & the chance of a Battle; would not suffer me to delay one minute acquainting him with it, as also making it Publick. You cannot imagine the Effect it has in the Army & the Joy it gives them to think they are secure of a Commander, whose Courage, & Conduct, is well known; & of which many of them have been eye Witnesses.

Give me leave to ask you one Question Gentlemen: there is one Captn. Cosby of the Bombay Detachment gives it out in Camp; that he is promised the Majority of this Coast from home. & intimates that Mr. Saunders said to him, & Commodore James, that it was hinted at in one of the last General Letters from the Company. But sure it cannot be for the Governour in his last Letter to me, writes; that one Mr. Herring was talked of for it.

I reccommend it to you Gentlemen to consider seriously, & speedily what you intend doing with Mauphoos Cawn He now makes reasonable Offers. a very little Sum at St. David, & the rest when he has cross'd the Caleroon will satisfy him. or a Bill on Buckanjee (to show his People) payable when he has cross'd the River. It would be wrong to suffer him to be bought off by the Enemy, If you can keep him for what you first intended. Or even staying where he is, makes him a troublesome Neighbour. If he can be got at the first Price, he is worth having here, on the Conditions he offers to come I beg you will give positive, & clear Orders to Mr. Starke how to act in it. our Party's marching has made him very humble & tractable.

Your Provision for the Admiral in my Opinion is very reasonable & Genteel.

The Nabob's great Seal seal [*sic*] being at Trichenopoly oblig'd him to affix his small one, but as soon as he can get at the other he will send it as you desire.

Peremrauze I shall send down Prisonner to the Settlement; & there please to punish, or release him as you think proper.

The Business of Tritchenopoly shall be a principal Object of my Care. The Nabob's Family must go down. I have purchased & continue to do so all the Provisions I can get. But as to the Prisoners it would be proper for me to know where I am to send them before they move.

The Names & Stations of the Cadets now with me are as follows.

Joannes Hertzor enter'd as Cadet in the English Service in the Month of March 1752.

Alexander de Soussure in the Month of Janry. 1753.

Captn. Cosby's Son is also on the list but as a Minor need I mention him?

Morarow is march'd further off; one Day more brings him to Wolconda where he is to receive the first Payment. I am, Gentlemen, Your most obedt. and most humble Servant S: LAWRENCE.

Polyput Camp
13th. Augst. 1754.

P.S. Captns. Forbes & Campbell join me to morrow.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. AUGUST 1754.*—— [26TH.]

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.

Sir

Captn. Campbell & his Party have joyned me. The Gentleman has now given up his Charge, & is desirous of going down to Madrass to submit his Conduct to a Tryal. I could not refuse him so just a Demand, so he leaves me to morrow. & I march for Tritchenopoly. I am, Sir Your most obedt. humble Servant S: Lawrence.

Polyput Camp
15th. August 1754.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr. President & Governour &ca, Council of Fort St. George. No. 63.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have just receiv'd yours of the 9th. with the Answer to Mr. Godeheu, & Letters for the Nabob, & King of Tanjore along with this goes the Nabob's Answer.

There is a vacancy of a Captn. Lieutcy. Mr. Davis is the next to succeed in the Battalion & deserves Promotion, as a good Officer. I only mention this because I hear Mr. Merryman is applying If he rises it ought to be in his own Corps; the Artillery. Moreover was there a Vacancy. I cannot say I would reccommend him.

I march'd to Day, to Morrow brings us I hope to Trichinopoly. I have already acquainted you with my Intentions how I propose to act with the Enemy I am Gentlemen Your most obedient humble Servt.

Twagoody Camp
16th. August 1754. S: Lawrence.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr. President & Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George. No. 64.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I receiv'd, & immediately answer'd yours of the 19th.

I was then on my March & acquainted you I propos'd being the next Day at Trichenopoly. the Enemy began to cannonade us immediately on our entrance on the Plain, & were a marching up with a seeming Intention of attacking us. I order'd my Cannon to answer theirs, & mov'd up to meet them; but on the two or three first Shot the French Battallion went to the right about, & gave us no more Trouble. As my Baggage was considerable I did not chuse to follow them at that Time, & even as it was; We lost a few Arrack Carts, & some Stores by the Neglect of our Seapoys who suffered 30 Horse to take them. We were unlucky enough by the Cannonade to lose poor Captn. Pigou & about Six or Seven private Men Kill'd & Wounded.

If these are Proofs of Mr. Godeheu's pacifick Intentions, their Troops attacking & stopping us on our March; It is to be hoped they will always meet with the same Success. & he must excuse us if We endeavour to return the Compliment by the first Opportunity that Offers

The Enemy are gone to another Camp, but still on the Plain. I flatter myself of sending you an Account in my next; that they are not on this Side of the Water, their reinforcement joyn'd them the Day before, with Mr. Maisin, who Commands; Mainville being removed.

Major Killpatrick on our Approach made a Sally with his Garrison, & prevented Mr. Lambert joyning them with a Body of Seapoys.

It was impossible that Gentleman could venture to send you any return of the Place. It was so closely watched, that scarce our Harcars could venture in with the smallest Chits. Provisions are greatly reduc'd, the Nabob's Family, & attendance are

[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

so numerous, & we were oblig'd to supply them out of the Magazine, for not a grain came in to signify after We left the Place that there was Nothing left but Paddy when We came up. We must endeavour to reinplace it. as soon as Possible. & the Nabob's Family to be sent away. The returns as you desire will be sent in a Day or two.

The French Prisoners are here in great distress ; & by their own People's Fault. who do not send them Money regularly, or even of that sufficient for their Expence. they block up the place so that no Provisions can come in, & refuse sending any kind of Refreshments to their Prisoners who dye every Day with the Scurvy They have wrote the most moving Letters representing their Case, and Major Kilpatrick offers to let it in, and that they should be faithfully distributed. yet nothing was sent to their Relief. You may Gentlemen represent this to Mr. Godeheu, & unless he gives orders about it ; the Nabob cannot help these inconveniencies, nor We either. If they will block up the Place, & not send Provisions for their People ; We are not any longer accountable for what may or has happen'd thro' Scarcity.

I gave Major Killpatrick to Day his Brevet and presented him to the Army who receiv'd him with great Joy. I am Gentlemen Your most obedient humble Servant

Camp near Trichinopoly.
18th. August 1754. S : LAWRENCE.

To the two first Letters an Answer having been prepar'd is now read & sign'd as follows.

No. 21. TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE HONBLE COMPYS FORCES IN INDIA.

We wrote you the 9th. & have receiv'd your Letters of the 30th. Ult°. and 13th. Instant with one to the President of the 15th.

We are glad to hear of the Junction of Captn. Forbes's Detachment Mauphoos Cawn by last Letters remains at St. David Mr. Starke has long ago had Orders to advance him the Rs. 50,000 he does not seem inclin'd to March & if he continues there the Enemy will very probably soon harrass him. Capt. Campbell before he march'd desird on account of his Health to return, his Conduct shall be enquir'd into.

On Examining the Affair of Mr. Dawson & Captn. Pascall we find them both culpable though Captn. Pascall appears the agressor We have therefore reprimanded them both.

It would be very agreeable if Morarow punctually perform'd his agreement but this is what We dont really expect.

The several Phirmaunds from the Nabob are received please to acquaint him that so soon as Abdul Bob Cawn orders his Amuldars to deliver the Countrys the President will write him fully Mauphoos Cawn & not Abdul Bob Cawn collects the Rents of Conjeveram.

We want Mr. Fraser to settle his Accounts according to the Company's regulations that all unreasonable Charges be lopped off.

Mr. Willson's Indent is order'd to be complied with.

We have allow'd Captn. Polier Rs. 15 ℔ Day whilst Commander in Chief & the Charge of transporting his cloathing he was ask'd what other Perquisites the only one he intimates is a Monthly Contribution from the Buzar People in Regard to Stoppages for non Effective Men Captn. Gaupp made the same Request, We thought fit to refer it to the Company as it is of an extensive Nature and every Captn. in the Service may alledge the same Claim inclos'd is Copy of Sr. Luke Schaub's Contract 'tis in general Terms no particular Emoluments being mention'd.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. AUGUST 1754.*—— [26TH.]

We are glad the Men Expresss'd so much Joy on the Receipt of Captn. Killpatrick's Commission & are assur'd of that Gentleman's Zeal for the good of the Service but wish the Condition of his Wounds may not render him incapable of Field Duty should this be the Case We desire your Opinion what Officer you Judge most equal to the Command the present Juncture is very critical & We cannot be too Cautious.

There is nothing mention'd in the General Letters from England of Captn. Cosby, the President will answer your Para: on that Subject.

If the Prisoners can be sent in without Risque We suppose it must be by way of Deve Cotah the only Places We have to put them in are St. David Madrass & Chingalaput.

Inclos'd is Copy of another Letter from Monsr. Godeheu with the reply to it. you dont mention whether an Exchange of Prisoners suits the Situation of your Army or whether they should be those at Trichinopoly or Fort St. David & Chingalaput; We shall make our Proposals & if a Suspension of Arms is agreed on it will be that a free communication with Trichinopoly with regard to Provisions shall be preserved. It would have been of infinite Service had the Company communicated to us the Articles of the Treaty on foot for Europe, as they have not we must act as We Judge most for their Interest.

The Enemy have a Detachment of near 500 Men if they act in the Arcot Country We have not a force to oppose them the Consequence will be that Arcot & Chingalaput must fall We have therefore acceded to the Suspension. We are, Sir, Your most obedt. Servants.

THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 26th. August 1754.

P.S. Your Letters of the 16th. & 18th. are also receiv'd & shall be answer'd in a Day or two.

In regard to the Major's Reccommendation of Lieutenant Davis for the vacant Captain Lieutenᵞ: recourse being had to the List of Officers it appears that Lieutenant Bilhock is a Senior Officer & his Character having never been called in Question 'tis suppos'd the Major must have made a Mistake, as to Lieutenant Merryman (an Artillery Officer) his Application to be promoted in the Military, it is agreed to acquaint the Major that We wrote to our Hoñ'ble Masters by the Chesterfield for some Directions on this Head that We might neither disgust the Military nor deprive the Artillery of any Privilege intended them, that they have been pleas'd to tell us in Answer the Military regulations are clear & explicit, those Regulations say the Artillery Officers may be preferred in the Military which We are of Opinion gives them no Right & therefore We shall not Chuse to break thro' a regular Succession in the Military unless in Cases of particular Merit.

Agreed that the Case of the French Prisoners at Trichinopoly as mention'd by the Major be represented to Mr. Godeheu.

Agreed to write the Major We should be glad to have the Nabob's Family & the French Prisoners remov'd from Trichinopoly.

The President lays before the Board a Letter from Captn. Charles Campbell (lately arriv'd from Camp) in Justification of his Conduct in his March from hence to Join the Major which being read & consider'd the Board are of Opinion that he is not to blame for the many Delays which happen'd in that March as Mauphoos Cawn's Conduct has shewn he proceeded even as far as St. David with reluctance & probably threw many Obstacles in the way designedly, but in regard to Captain Campbell's Letter to the President * that he would resign his Commission in Six Days & come in,

* Vide this affair related after a Letter to Mr. Lawrence, dated 6 July, enter'd there in these Occurrences.

[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

the Board are of Opinion that his Offering to throw up his Commission when on the March at the Head of a Party he had been particularly singled out to Conduct was an Action unbecoming an Officer for which he might be called to Account by a Court Martial; but that he might first have an Opportunity of Justifying himself before the Board he was order'd to attend & the President having acquainted him with the sense of the Board he acknowledg'd his Fault, imputed it to Rashness and promis'd a more strict regard to his Duty in future, whereupon the Board thought proper to reprimand him; but in consideration of his past Services and submission, to pass over that wrong Step without further Notice. of which 'tis agreed to advise the Major.

The Garrison's of Arcot & Chingalaput being but weakly mann'd & the French having now a large body of Men at Pondicherry it is Agreed that Arcot be reinforc'd with Fifty Military and Chingalaput with twenty five.

The President lays the Country Correspondence before the Board Viz^{t}.

Letter from Mahomet Ebrar Cawn advising that he was sent by the Nabob & Major Lawrence to Mauphoos Cawn to learn the Situation of his Affairs & his Intentions & persuade him to march to Join the Nabob, that he found the Difficulty was the want of Money. he therefore desires that the fifty Thousand Rupees which were to have been paid to Mauphoos Cawn may be advanced to him (Ebrar Cawn) that he will not deliver it to Mauphoos Cawn untill he has crossed the Coladan & in case he shou'd refuse to March at all he (Ebrar Cawn) will be answerable for the Money & deliver it to whom we may order.

Agreed that M^{r}. Starke be directed to discourse with Mahomet Ebrar Cawn & promise to pay him the Money at Deve Cotah on Mauphoos Cawn's Arrival there, but in case he should object to receiving the Money at Deve Cotah, rather than retard the March that the whole Sum be paid him at Fort St. David making him answer^{ble}: for it in case Mauphoos Cawn should not proceed.

Letter from Nabob Annaverde Cawn Behauder accompany^{g}. a Power from him to the President to treat of & settle a Peace with ye French.

As it may be expected that Conferences will shortly be held with the French for treating of Peace it is agreed that in such Case the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Robt. Palk & M^{r}. Hen^{y}. Vansittart be appointed Commissarys on our part.

THO^{S}. SAUNDERS.
CHA^{S}. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
A^{R}. WYNCH.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA^{S}. BOURCHIER.

27TH. The President having receiv'd advice that a Party from Pondicherry consisting of 100 Europeans, 50 Horse with Carbines, 500 Seapoys & 600 Matchlocks with two large Guns, were at Allamparve the same was communicated to the Council who were of Opinion that as the said Party may probably be strengthen'd from Gingee & have in View the reduction of Arcot & Chingalaput or perhaps to seize the Tripoty Revenues at the approaching Feast, it is most adviseable not to throw any Reinforcements immediately into Arcot & Chingalaput as agreed at the last Consultation but to collect together in one Body all the Forces We can Muster which may amount (including the Party now at Poonemalee) to about 200 or 230 Military, to watch the Motions of the Enemy & oppose them in the Field if it be found practicable, but if the Enemy should add such further Reinforcements to their Party as to make it very hazardous for ours to face them in the Field, in that Case it is thought most prudent that the Commander of the Detachment be order'd to watch an Opportunity of throwing strong Reinforcements into Arcot & Chingalaput and retreat with the rest.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 27TH. AUGUST 1754.*—— [27TH.]

Sent, Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu dated this Day enter'd in French Correspondence N°. 17 the purport being that tho' he has propos'd a Suspension which we were ready to acquiesce in yet the Party he is forming seems to have no very pacifick Appearance, desiring that if his Intentions are Sincere he will order that Party not to commit any Hostilities. 27.

Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE HONBLE COMPY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

We last Night answer'd your Letters as far as the 15th. Instant & acknowledg'd the Receipt of those dated the 16th. & 18th.

That We might avoid as much as Possible giving any Disgust to the Military, & at the same time that the Artillery might not be excluded from any particular Benefit the Company intended them We wrote home on the Subject by the Chesterfield [and] stated the Pretensions of the latter to a Succession in the former, & desir'd some particular Directions for our Guidance, our Honble Masters have not been pleas'd to give us any other Answer than that the Military Regulations are Clear & explicit, as you may observe by the Extracts sent you of the general Letter 23d. Jany. parã: 90. Regulations referr'd to only say "those who serve in the Artillery may be promoted in the other Companys in case of Vacancys" which certainly gives no Right & We shall not chuse to break a regular Succession in the Military by a Promotion of the Artillery unless in Cases of particular Merit. You Reccommend Lieutenant Davis for the vacant Captain Lieutenancy as being next to Succeed, on referring to the List of Officers We find that Lieutenant Bilhock stands before him, & as We have never heard his Character as an Officer call'd in Question We imagine you made a mistake as to Lieut. Davis's Rank.

We are much concern'd at the Death of Captn. Pigou who was generally esteemd in Publick & Private Life, Captn. Beaver will Succeed to that Vacancy by the Companys Appointment.

We are not surpris'd at the French offering to oppose your Passage for untill a Suspension be actually agreed on, they will doubtless distress us as much as they can, nor should We be backward in seizing every Advantage that may offer, We are inform'd they have sent out a Party which is now at Allamparva consisting of 100 Europeans, 50 Horse with Carbines & 500 Seapoys with 2 large Guns Tumbrills &ca. these have been joyn'd by 600 Matchlocks [*sic*] Fellows 'tis probable their Design may be against Arcot or Chingalaput or perhaps to seize the Tripoty Revenues at the approachs. Feast, We are forming as large a Body as We can collect which may consist of about 200 Military who (with Abdul Bob Cawn if he can be brought to act otherwise alone) are to watch the Enemy's Motions, We shall hasten them away towards Conjeveram.

Enclos'd is Copy of a Letter to Mr. Godeheu on the Subject of Hostility's & the French Prisoners at Trichinopoly.

The throwing a Store of Provision into Trichinopoly is certainly of the greatest Consequence the Nabob's Family being there is an Inconvenience We have long wish'd to see remov'd We hope you will be able to effect both.

Captn Charles Campbell is arriv'd here & We have enquir'd into his Conduct, that part of it which appear'd to us particularly to deserve Censure was his writing to the President that he would throw up his Commission in Six Days this, at a time when he was on the March at the Head of a Party which he had been singled out to Conduct. We call'd him before us & acquainted him of our Sentiments when he

[27TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 27TH. AUGUST 1754.*——

acknowledg'd his Fault in such a manner as leaves us no Room to Doubt that he is thoroughly sensible of it and will not fall into the like Error again, We shall therefore pass it over without further Notice as his former Conduct has been commendable. We are Sir Your most obed^{t}. Servants.

THO^{S}. SAUNDERS, CHA^{S}. BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEX^{R}. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHA^{S}. BOURCHIER.

Fort S^{t}. George
the 27th. Augst. 1754.

29TH. The President having rece'd further Intelligence that the Party of French at Allamparva had been join'd by another large Body of Europeans with a Train of Artillery & that they had moved forward towards Chingalaput, that Force being now greatly superiour to what We can send into the Field, The Members of the Council being acquainted with the present Circumstances of Affairs are of Opinion that it is too hazardous to oppose them with our small Body in the Field as the Consequences of a Defeat may put it out of our Power to succour Arcot & Chingalaput which in their present Weak Condition must become an easy Conquest 'tis therefore Agreed that strong Reinforcements be immediately thrown into those two Places which must then be left to their own Strength.

Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence with Copy of Parag^{s}. 14. 24. 25. 26. 27. Extracted from the General Letter receiv'd from England ℔ Anson arriv'd this Day Viz^{t}.

TO STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^{R}. COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF ALL THE HONBLE COMPANYS FORCES IN INDIA.

No. 23. Sir

The Anson arriv'd this Morning from Europe she left the Downs the 6th. March & yet we have no later Advices from the Company than the 15th. February in which they mention not one Word of the Treaty so that We suppose it remain'd in the same Situation as our last Letters mention, neither concluded nor broke off. The Naval Preparations were going on, The Warren, a Bombay Ship is order'd first to touch here to give Passage to Major Heron & M^{r}. Orme We may expect her Arrival very shortly, the Anson has brought us r, a, t, (35) Swiss Recruits enclos'd is an Extract of several Paragraphs from the general Letter for your Perusal, & also a Letter which came in the general Packet.

The Party of French We mention'd in our last at Allamparva has been Join'd by another large Body with a large Train of Artillery, all the Forces We can muster would be very insufficient to face them in the Field, We have therefore no resource but to throw good Reinforcements into Arcot & Chingalaput & wait the Event.

We shall be glad of your Opinion whether Major Heron on his Arrival should be sent to Camp. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants.

THO^{S}. SAUNDERS, CHA^{S} BODDAM, HEN^{Y}. POWNEY, ALEX^{R}. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHA^{S}. BOURCHIER.

Fort S^{t}. George
the 29th. August 1754.

31. Sent a short Letter N°. 18 To M^{r}. Godeheu to accompany Duplicate of the two last.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 2D. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [2ND.]

AT A CONSULTATION.

SEPTEMBER. MONDAY THE 2D.

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT.
CHARLES BODDAM. HENRY POWNEY
ALEXR. WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL } takes his seat at the
JOHN SMITH CHARLES BOURCHIER. } Board, Vide publick Consultns.

The Minutes of last Consultation being read the President objects to that Paragraph in relation to Lieutenants Bilhock, Davis, & Merryman & also to that Paragraph in the Letter to Major Lawrence dated 27th. August No. 22 where he is advis'd of the Resolution on that Subject, & delivers his dissent in Writing to be enter'd on the Minutes of Consultation which is as follows.

"The Train Regulations mention that the Officers of Train & Military may be "promoted on each Branch in Case of Vacancys, I object to that Paragraph where it "is said those Regulations give them no Right & that We dont chuse to break "through the regular Succession of the Military useless [*sic*] in cases of Merit, & am of "Opinion it absolutely gives a Right, at present Mr. Bilhock is to succeed, & if not, "the Reason for acquiescing with Davis is that as it has been represented to the "Company & no particular Answer given We do not chuse at present to make any "alteration."

THOS. SAUNDERS.

The President lays before the Board two Letters from Mr. Godeheu both dated the 29th. Ulto. (No. 19 & 20 in french Corresp.) by which it is very plain to be observ'd that at the same Time he speaks in the most pacifick Stile he endeavours to evade his own Proposal of a Suspension of Arms which he says will be of no effect unless We reciprocaly [*sic*] engage to oblige our respective Allies to lay down their Arms, & that as the settling the term of a Suspension will take up as much time as treating of Peace he thinks it will be best to enter immediately on the latter, in regard to the Norward he declines our Proposal on that head & says their Transaction there have the Sanction of Salabat Jings grant whose Right cannot be disputed & the discussion of those Points will but wast [*sic*] time. With regard to the Prisoners at Trich. he engages to be accountable for what Provision they may be supplied with.

In answer whereto it is agreed that the Suspension of Arms be still press'd & even a Day fixed for its taking Place that Mr. Godeheu be also acquainted we will consent to the Engagement he mentions, to oblige our respective Allies to lay down their Arms which We think will conduce much to facilitate a Peace as fresh Acts of Hostility will only inflame. that in regard to the Norward whatever Powers his Officers may have to receive money they can have no right to interrupt our Commerce or molest us in our Possessions. That if he will order Provisions to be sent for the french Prisoners at Trichenopoly, they shall meet with no obstruction & be punctually distributed.

It is also agreed that Proposals be sent Mr. Godeheu as a Basis for a Treaty of Peace to this Effect, That Nabob Annaverde Cawn Bahawder be acknowledg'd as Subah of the Carnatick. That the King of Tanjore enjoy his Country in Peace That a reasonable Satisfaction be made the several Parties interested in the War, And that the English & French shall both enjoy a free Trade on this Coast.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

My last was on the 18th. the Enemy continued on the Plain & having Possession of Elmiseram distress'd me so much for Provisions that I made a movement on the

[2ND.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 2D. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

20th. night to them with Intentions if that did not make them march to attack them in their Camp, but they chose to retreat that same Afternoon; I contented myself with Canonading them as they went off. I should not have proceeded so cautiously but as the Events of Arms, no man can answr. for; he is much to blame if he risques the whole by an Engagement, when he can Honourably avoid it. The Garrison of Trichenopoly had but few Provisions left, and none in the Camp, so that the Loss of a Battle must have lost all.

The Enemy are now on the Island my principal Concern shall be to distress them for & supply the Garrison with Provisions We have taken Elmiseram, so the Communication is quite open.

This is, Gentlemen, my Situation, & now you may Judge when it is proper for you to make your Proposals. I am with great Respect, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient humble Servant

Camp
22d. August 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

Agreed to write Major Lawrence that as the French have receiv'd large Reinforcements & seem to intend acting in the Arcot Province where We have not sufficient Force to oppose them, & as it is probable our expected Fleet may not arrive till after the Monsoon, We see no other Step to be taken at present but to collect all the Provision he possibly can for the Store of Trichenopoly that he may be in readiness to march this way if Occasion should require for which purpose We shall remit sufficient supplys of Money.

Order'd that as large a Sum be remitted to Mr. Newton at Tanjore for the use of the Army as Bills can be procur'd for.

General Letter from Major Killpatrick acknowledging the Receipt of the Brevet appointing him to that Rank, & enclosing the Accounts of that Garrison for the last three Months.

Captn. Gaupp at Chingalaput advises that his Hircar's bring him Intelligence that the french Party he before wrote about with two Thousand Seapoys & two Hundred Horse were gone to Wandewash where they talk of staying till they are join'd by another Party & then intend to march to Arcot.

A letter from Doctor Wilson at Trichinopoly to Doctor Munro advising that all the Medicines sent for the use of that Garrison & Protector to St. David have fallen into the Enemy's Hands therefore desiring another Supply.

Order'd that they be provided & sent.

Country Correspondence read Vizt.

Letter from Viziaram Rauze by which he seems very discontented with the French & offers to join with us in establishing Nabob Annaverde Cawn in the Government of the Northern Province, or Mahomed Abraham Ally Cawn, but till he receives our Answer he says he must pretend Friendship with the French, desiring that 100 Barrells of Gunpowder may be sent him & that his Family may be admitted into Vizagapatam, he Adds that he has receiv'd advice that Gauzede Cawn's Son Phearoz Jung, and Malarzey Holcar had dethron'd the Mogul & set a Boy nam'd Aurenzeb on the Throne, that Salabad Jing was dismissed from the Subahship of the Decan Country which was granted to Ballazerow.

Agreed that one hundred Barrells of Gunpowder be sent to Vizagapatam to be deliver'd to Viziaram Rauze & that he be acquainted it is not in our Power at present to share [*sic*] a Sufficient Force to execute the Scheme he proposes but that we shall always be glad of his Friendship and reccommend to him to cultivate a good Harmony with Jaffer Ally Cawn the late Nabob and his Family.

From Murtas Ally Cawn acknowledging the Receipt of the President's Letter of Indulgence which he says is not agreeable to the form he sent desiring that such an one may be transmitted to him. Agreed that it be sent.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 2D. SEPTEMBER 1754.*— — [2nd]

The Killedar of Chittaput in a Letter to Captain Maskelyne says that Mr. Godeheu had wrote to him to deliver the Fort to the Circars People & come to Pondicherry but that he return'd for Answer that the Fort belong'd to the Patcha by whose Orders Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn acts as Governour of the Carnatick, that he therefore submitted to him & has no Business with any body else.

Abdul Bob Cawn writes that he will send an Order for the delivery of Chingalaput, Covelong Manamangalum and 7 Magans of the Tripossore Country.

Order'd that Captn Schaub draw out & lay before the Board an Account of the Cloathing that was taken with his Detachmt. at Pondicherry, the Pay he drew whilst there & other Charges attending the same during his detention by Mr. Dupleix.

As the motions of the French give room to apprehend they may have some designs against Chingalaput it is Agreed that all the French Prisoners in that Garrison (Officers excepted) be conducted hither.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS. BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence. 4TH.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF ALL THE HOÑBLE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 22d. advising of your movement towards the Enemy & their retreat to the Island by which means your Communication is now open. its probable as their Ships are not all arriv'd they will avoid an Engagement, it is said another Reinforcement of 360 Men has been sent to Syringham. We compute that they may have already receiv'd 1400 Men 'tis said they expect 2500. We have receiv'd about 400 We have not any fresher Advices of the Squadron and are apprehensive that they may not arrive till January the Enemy's Intention seems to be to act in the Arcot Province a large Force is now at Vandewash in expectation of being join'd by another upon examination of our Strength here We found it impossible to raise a Party sufficient to oppose them & have therefore flung Reinforcements into Chingalaput & Arcot & if it can be done with safety shall remove the Prisoners from the former. We think the immediate Step for you to take is with the greatest Expedition to put Provisions into Trichinopoly that if Occasion requires you may move. No. 24.

By the accompanying Copies of Monsr. Godeheus Letters you will perceive he declines a Suspension & rejects including the Norward in the Treaty, however Pacifick this Gentleman's Disposition might be on his departure from Europe it seems changed, as a Suspension was his Proposal We shall push it.

Inclos'd is Copy of a Letter from Captn. Polier wherein he mentions that Sr. Luke Schaub writes him that the Swiss Recruits this year were intended for the three Companys & requests that such German & Dutch deserters as may come be incorporated in these Companys as the readiest way to recruit them the Recruits this Year are mention'd for Fort St. George Captn. Gaupp's Company has suffered the most & Captn. Polier's the Compleatest We think they should be divided in proportion and approve that the Deserters be constantly applyed to these Company's. Captn. Schaub intimates to Us that the Germans arriv'd at Pondicherry seem dissatisfied & would prefer our Service many of them would probably have been sent

[4TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 4TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

to Camp if encourragement be given that each Man shall receive 10 Pagodas for enlisting for 5 Years enjoy the same pay & priviledges of the Swiss & be receiv'd according to their Rank probably many would come over to us.

Just as the above Letter was closing came in the Tappies from St. David with advice that the Brittania one of the Tender's of the Squadron was arriv'd from Cork. what advice she may bring will be immediately Communicated to you We conceive it will be proper to raise some Seapoys & would it be amiss if a few of our Officers who were acquainted with the Country were there We are Sir Your most obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENY. POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, WILLM. PRECEVAL, JOHN SMITH, CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
4th. Sepr. 1754.

P.S. The Nabob being now at Trichenopoly please to remind him of sending us the several Saneds under his great Seal.

Remitted to Mr. Andrew Newton at Tanjore for the use of the Army two Bills of Exchange for 5000 Pags. each drawn by Nella Cantaker.

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu dated this Day as enter'd in French Correspondence No. 21.

5 Sent another Letter to Mr. Godeheu containing Proposal as a Basis for a Peace as ℔r. French Correspondence No. 22.

MONDAY THE 9TH. AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
CHARLES BODDAM — HENY. POWNEY
AR. WYNCH — WM. PERCEVAL
JOHN SMITH — CHAS. BOURCHIER.

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows

TO THE HOÑBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVR. &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

No. 66. Enclos'd I now send you Copy's of two Letters sent by Mr. Godeheu, the one to the King of Tanjore, the other to the Nabob, & believe I shall be able in a few Days to send you the Answers they make to them. As We lost Captn. Pigou by a Cannon Shot on our March to this place, & Captn. Beaver has shewn me an Order from you to succeed to the first Vacancy, desire his Commission may be sent up; since I wrote my last I am Inform'd the Enemy lost by our Cannonade Six Officers & Forty Europeans, the most of which we saw on the Plain, they have now taken Post opposite the end of the Island, & have cut the Banks of the River, which has flooded the Country all around, so as to make it impossible to attack them; this Day I intend to march & take Post near them & shall make them so miserable, as to oblige them to quit their present Encampment soon; As the Country is quite open, I am throwing all the Provisions I can into Trichenopoly, I have already sent in 1500 Bullock's Loads to replace those consumed during my Stay near Tanjore, & shall continue to put in all I can; you know my Situation by my Letter of the 22d. August & I have not been Honour'd with any of your Commands since the 9th. I am with great Respect, Gentlemen Your most Obedt. humble Servant S: LAWRENCE.

Camp at Trichinopoly
1st. Sept. 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 9TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.* —— [9ms.]

General Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. read as follows.

To the Hoñble Thos. Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &c^a Council of Fort S^t. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

The Britannia arriving here on the 1st. Instant with part of his Majesty's Troops Commanded by L^t. Colonel Bagshaw, I have (in Consequence of your Pleasure signified in your Letter to the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Squadron) reccommended their Landing with all possible Expedition, & shall contribute all in my Power consistent with your Honour &ca's Instructions to accomodate them to their Content & Satisfaction. The L^t. Col^l. at my Request came on shore yesterday in a private Capacity to concert Measures for their Reception. Cuddalore is the Place determin'd on for their Lodgment apart from the Company's Troops where he the L^t. Colonel (in absence of Col^l. Aldercron) is to Command seperately. For the present cou'd only acquaint him that he will be provided with an House, but in point of Table had not yet receiv'd any Orders about it. As We may now expect the Arrival of the Squadron with the other Troops daily, & being myself most desirous to afford them any kind of Treatment that will be Satisfactory to your Honour &c^a. I take the Liberty to trouble you again for your farther Sentiments on what now Occurs. Your Letter of the 11th July directs the Fort House & one genteel Table at the Company's Expence for the Commander in Chief, & again in that of the 19th. Ultimo You intimate that the commanding Officer of the Land Forces may lodge with the Admiral in like manner as did Major Monpesson with Boscawen By the Intelligence now receiv'd I understand a wide difference betwen M^r. Boscawen's Commission & this Admiral's, The Former was not only Admiral by Sea but General by Land, whereas the Latter is entirely confin'd to his Ships, & the Land Forces which he brings are under the Sole Command of the Col^l. or Superiour Land Officer for the time being, from this I judge the Admiral & Col^l. are to be regarded as two Commanders in Chief the one by Sea the other by Land, consequently (as I cannot suppose they will find it convenient to live together) equal Honours & Civilities may reasonably be expected by each of them, To do this, Two Tables, Two Pallanquins, & two setts of Servants must be kept, shall therefore be glad to know whether it meets with your Approbation, before I drop the Subject beg leave to point out for your Remark, that in his Majesty's Intructions for establishing a special Council for the Conducting of all War Affairs, (a Copy of which the Lieutenant Colonel has shewn me) Col^l. Aldercron is nominated before the Admiral, In course if his Rank gives him Place I presume no Distinction in point of Honours & Civility should be made unless in the Col's Favour For the Accomodation part as the Troops must be in Cuddalore I propose that for the Col's Residence, The Admiral with his Captains having no interference with them may I hope be all provided in the Fort House.

I have agreeable to your Instructions secur'd as many of the black People's Houses in Cuddalore as I believe will suffice for the Lodgment of the Troops, That which I would propose for the Colonel is the Property of M^r. Kiernander who tells me he is very willing to spare it on Condition the Company would allow him 15 Pagodas ℔ Mensem, but as I do not find myself empower'd to make any Agreements of this Kind must referr it to your Consideration. Your Commands respecting the Batta to be allow'd the Captains, Lieutenants, & Men belonging to his Majesty's Troops shall be duly complied with It is already hinted to me that the several Officers expect either Pallankeen or Horse to be allow'd them, all the Officers that was out with M^r. Boscawen they say had the Command of one of these, upon Enquiry I find many of them were furnished with Horses at Pleasure, but must observe there was then a Troop of Horse in keeping out of which they were usually supplyed ; if your Honour &c^a are dispos'd to admit of either of these be pleas'd to signifie the same I am with Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed^t. humble Servant Rich^d. Starke.

Fort S^t. David
4th. Sep^tr. 1754.

[9TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 9TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

In Answer to the foregoing Letter the following having been prepar'd is now sign'd.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNOUR
OF FORT STR. DAVID.

Sir

We have consider'd of the several Particulars on which you desire Instruction in regard to the Kings Troops, & in the first place We would have you assure all the Officers We shall always be ready & pleas'd to give them every accomodation in our Power as far as We can stand Justified to our Honble Masters. As it appears to us Coll. Aldercron is to have the entire Command of all the Land Forces a Table should certainly be kept for him as well as one for the Admiral, and untill the Cols. Arrival the Table must be allow'd Lieutt. Coll. Bagshaw who it seems takes the Command in his absence, We are at a loss how to account for the Precedence which seems to be given Coll. Aldercron unless he should have some Commission which as yet we know nothing of for it is certain that according to establishment Admirals and Commodores Rank with Field Officers but Colonels, with Naval Captains of three years Date, 'tis to be hop'd the Company will give us some Directions on this Head, in the mean time that We may avoid as much as possible falling into any Errors that may occasion Discontent the President will write to Lieut. Coll. Bagshaw for his opinion.

By all means secure Mr. Kiernander's House on the Terms he proposes for the Accomodation of the Colonel. It would be very difficult to procure Pallanquins & Horses for all the Officers besides, the Expence would be so heavy that We cannot answer it to the Company, the most We can stretch to is to allow Pallanquins to Coll. Aldercron Lieutt. Coll. Bagshaw & Major Sewell (who we are inform'd is coming) when in Garrison & Pallanquins & Horses when in the Field the Quarter Masters and Adjutants must also be allowed Horses in the Field but not in Garrison & as we before directed all the Officers are to have diet in Garrison & Batta in the Field out of which they are to provide themselves. If the Kings Troops are not provided with Tents, you will give Directions for preparing some as well as all other Necessarys advise us whether they are or not that if they are wanted we may order some to be set about here also.

We are advised that Mauphoos Cawn is near Palem Cotah & that the Enemy are gathering a Force at Chelimbrum if he continues where he is we are apprehensive the Enemy will not leave him long in quiet. We wrote you the 29th. to advance Ebrar Cawn the half Lack & think it strange you have not acquainted us whether you did so or not we repeat what we then directed, but if he is prevented crossing the Caleroon by the Freshes, as We think his present Situation dangerous We would have you advise him either to come back to your Bounds or return to Arcot, & in that case you are not to advance him the half Lack if it is not already done. We are, Sir Your affectionate Friends & Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS., CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY. POWNEY, AR. WYNCH, WM. PERCEVAL, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 9th. Septr. 1754.

The Board judging it proper that Coll. Aldercron on his arrival should immediately be acquainted with the Situation of our Affairs & as he may be hourly expected at St. David the following is now sign'd to be lodg'd with Mr. Starke for the Coll. Vizt.

To COLONEL ALDERCRON COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF ALL HIS MAJESTY'S LAND FORCES EXPECTED IN INDIA

Sir

We hope soon to have the Pleasure of congratulating you on your safe Arrival. in the mean Time that you may immediately on your landing be inform'd of our

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 9TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [9TH.]

Situation We think it necessary to acquaint you our Advices from Europe say a Treaty with the French was on the Carpet, some Difficulty's had arose but still they were not without Hopes of its terminating in Peace that at all Events a Squadron would proceed to India and on Board a Regiment under your Command both which we have Orders to prepare for, Mr. Godeheu is arriv'd at Pondicherry in quality of Commissary for the King and Governour general of the french Settlements in India. Mr. Dupleix 'tis said intends for Europe in October by the Centaur though the former gave us Assurances of his Pacifick Disposition & made advances for a Suspension which he seems now to retract his operations carry with them the Strongest Reasons to believe his Designs are for continuing the War they may have receiv'd about 14 or 1500 Men We are told they expect from 2500 to 3000 exclusive of any Reinforcement that may be sent them on the Knowledge of our Squadron coming out, our Recruits amount to about 400. The Army at Trichinopoly may be able to act on the defensive, the French have already sent out some Detachments to act in this Country & must if not oppos'd carry every Thing before them We therefore are of Opinion that his Majesty's Troops do as soon as conveniently the Necessary Stores &ca. can be in readiness take the Field Mr. Starke has Orders to facilitate this & concert proper Measures with you. We have the Honour to be Sir Your most obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS, CHARLES BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, JOHN SMITH, CHAS. BOURCHIER

Fort St. George
9th. Septr. 1754.

The President lays before the Board (as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 24) a Letter from Mr. Godeheu proposing that the Merchants employ'd by both Companys may be suffer'd to carry on their Trade freely and transport their Goods from one Place to another without Molestation, he renews his pacifick Declarations & adds that if Mr. Dupleix's Pretensions to the Nabobship of Arcot are any Obstacle to an Accomodation he will not Scruple to declare that it shall be removed.

In Answer to which it is agreed that Mr. Godeheu's Proposal for a free Trade be accepted & that it be propos'd to him to send us a Number of Dusticks for our Merchants & We will return as many for his that he also be acquainted We have no doubt but that his setting aside all Pretensions to the Nabobship of Arcot will be perfectly agreeable to our respective Superiours.

Captn. Gaupp at Chingalaput writes that he is advis'd the french Detachment was in motion & inclin'd towards Gingee but that they seem'd not to be determin'd on any particular Expedition since a Report had been spread in their Camp that strong Reinforcemts. from hence were arriv'd at Arcot & Chingalaput & that another strong Party is expected to follow them from hence.

Letter from Mr. Maunsell Commissary at Camp enclosing General Muster of all the Troops under the Command of Major Lawrence.

It being mention'd in some private Advices from England that a Bill for punishing Mutiny & Desertion in the East Indies had been brought into Parliament & would probably pass the President propos'd revoking the Commission granted to Major Lawrence in November Last to appoint Courts Martial, but after some Debate the Members differing in their Opinions, deliver their Reasons in Writing which they desire may be enter'd in the Minutes of this Consultation & are as follows.

MR. CHARLES BOURCHIER.

My Reasons for disapproving the annulling the Commission granted to Major Lawrence for holding general Courts martial are the same that subsisted when We thought proper to invest him with that Power Vizt. that We are Authoris'd to it by the Charter. It was then the Opinion of the Board as appears by the Minutes of Consultation that by viritue of the Plain & obvious Sense of the Words contain'd in that Clause of the Charter relating to the holding of Courts Martial to wit " *In time*

[9TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 9TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

of War or open Hostility" Major Lawrence might be empower'd to assemble & appoint Courts Martial in the Field, (according to the Intent and meaning of the Act for punishing Mutiny & Desertion) being there certainly in *open Hostility* but that they could not be construed to extend to this or any other of the Company's Garrisons or Settlements where Tranquility reigns. And as Nothing has since occurr'd to invalidate the Authority granted us by the Charter on this Head my Opinion is that there is as much reason Now as there was then for the Commission to the Major it being particularly express'd in the said Commission that the Authority he is thereby invested with is by Virtue of his Majesty's said Charter or Letters Patent & is to be conformable to the Act in force for punishing Mutiny & Desertion &c^{a}. As I observe in the Letters that were sent to Major Lawrence on this Occasion it was very particularly reccommended to him not to make use of the Power he had by the Said Commission but in Cases of absolute Necessity and even then with as much Lenity as might be consistent with the safety of the Army I think there is no need to repeat the same again, It may not be amiss to mention that there is a Report of a Mutiny Bill being presented to Parliament to empower the Agents of the Company to hold Courts Martial in their several Settlements which it was expected would pass & as it is consequently believ'd We shall soon receive the same We should be glad he would if possible avoid using the Power We have given him by the aforesaid Commission till the said Bill arrives which I conceive is not brought into Parliament because We have no Authority to grant the Power We have given the Major to hold Courts Martial but to extend the Authority given us by the Charter to hold them in time of Peace as well as War or open Hostility.

CHA^{S}. BOURCHIER.

M^{R}. JOHN SMITH

As I am inform'd an Act was ready to be pass'd empowering the holding Court Martials in India, I am doubtfull whether We have Authority to do it before the Act arrives which is my Reason for recalling the Commission sent Major Lawrence.

JOHN SMITH.

M^{R}. ALEXANDER WYNCH.

The Reason I do not approve of entirely taking away or annulling the Commission for holding Courts Martial is that I think the same Reason still subsists that did when We thought it necessary to grant it and when in our Letter to the Major We gave our Opinion that we had Authority by the Charter from the Words *open Hostility* to hold it when in the Face of an Enemy in the Field, I therefore am of Opinion that it had better not be immediately revoked, the Consequence of which especially if it should reach the Ears of the Military might prove fatal but it may not be improper to desire the Major not to put in Execution except he should find it absolutely necessary.

A^{R}. WYNCH.

M^{R}. WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

I cannot think any ill Consequence can attend our not annulling the Commission given to Major Lawrence to hold Courts' Martial if We represent to him that a New Act is expected shortly and reccommend to him not to make use of the Commission he now has but upon a very Extraordinary Occasion, Major Lawrence will doubtless pay a due Regard to such a Reccommendation and conceive the Thing in the Light We do, whereas should We revoke the Commission & the Military come to the Knowledge, it may be attended with many bad Consequences.

WILL^{M}. PERCEVAL.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 9TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [9TH.]

MR. HENRY POWNEY.

As it appears by our Consultation of the 30th. October 1753. that We then were of Opinion we were impower'd by the Charter to grant a Commission for holding Courts Martial in time of War & open Hostility I am therefore still of that Opinion & think the Commission should not be entirely anull'd but reccommended to be made use of only in case of absolutely [*sic*] necessity.

HENY. POWNEY.

MR. CHARLES BODDAM.

When the Commission was granted by us at a meeting in Council to Major Lawrence for holding general Court Martials, We were not then acquainted of the Mutiny Bill that is now brought in Parliament, I therefore gave my Consent to that Commission being drawn out empowering Major Lawrence to try Offenders at a Court Martial in the manner he requested which to me seem'd necessary from the Reasons he urged to be of the highest consequence in preserving his Command with order and distinction but since Commissions of that Nature are thought to be contrary to the Laws of Nature, & bear to be Canvass'd I do not at all think it unbecoming me to give my Consent for annulling the aforemention'd Commission to Major Lawrence, as I confess it was ignorance & the want of knowing the Laws of our Constitution better that led me to the Action which I now clear myself of any ill consequence arising by continuing that Commission in force the Major has.

CHARLES BODDAM.

THE PRESIDENT.

That when We gave our Opinion & a Commission for holding Court Martials we thought we were empower'd so to do is certain but when we find we have no such Power or at least that it is very doubtfull, in a Case of such Consequence I think it imprudent to continue it a reccommendation is of no Force the Person to whom it is address'd having a Power to comply or not as he pleases, in private Affairs no one would have a greater confidence in a Reccommendation than Myself, but not in publick Matters where the Laws of our Constitution are to be our Government, & where we swerve from them our Persons are responsible & our Superiours cannot support us nay their Orders are not to transgress them by a Munity [*sic*] Bill being presented to Parliament for empowering the East India Company's Agents to hold Court Martials in their several Settlemts. 'tis as clear as the Sun at Noon Day that they were before invested with no such Power to give a Commission knowingly contrary to the Laws of the Nation that may take away what is dearest to Man his Life & Whoever does it incurrs the Punishment adequate I am therefore of Opinion to annull the Commissions declaring that I am no ways responsible for any thing that may happen from their continuing in force.

THOMAS SAUNDERS.

The Majority being against annulling the Commission 'tis agreed that it be only reccommended to the Major not to use it except in Cases where the Safety of the Army may require it.

The Nabob having granted the Company Saneds for Chingalaput Covelong & Manamangalum Countrys and for 84 Villages of the Tripossore Country which interfere with the Poonemalee Country Agreed that the English Colours be hoisted at those several Places.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
CHAS BODDAM.
HENRY POWNEY.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

[12th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 12TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

Sent the following General [*sic*] to Major Lawrence.

No. 25. To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR.

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 1st. Instt. with Copys of those from Monsr. Godeheu to the Nabob & King of Tanjore the purport of them convinces that he is little acquainted with the Transactions of the Country Government in regard to the Latter especially or willfully avoids it, they are easily answer'd Inclos'd are Copy's of those receiv'd from & sent to him he continues a pacifick Strain but by so soon receding from the Proposal of a Suspension sufficiently shews how little Confidence can be repos'd in him 'twill not divert us from taking the necessary Cautions and at the same Time acceeding to what we Judge may promote a Peace our Reinforcements have arriv'd safe at Arcot & Chingalaput We purpose removing the Prisoners from the Latter where [*sic*] a safe opportunity presents their Force is divided at Wollegaree Chillimbrum Allumparva, Gingee, Wandewash & a Detachment besieging Grandepollam when the whole is united 'tis considerable being with those sent to Trichenopoly the Supplies of eight Ships to oppose any of those We cannot form a Party here but as the Brittania is arriv'd with 145 of his Majesty's Troops & the Squadron which had Sailed may be soon expected a Regiment of 800 & a Train of 100 Men with 12 Pieces of Cannon will We hope awe them.

Lieutt. Coll. Bagshaw with Several Officers came on the Brittannia We find 'twill be difficult to satisfie these Gentlemen in regard to Horses Pallanqueens Quarters allowances &ca though nothing reasonable shall be wanting to affect it.

We have appointed Captn. Beaver to the Vacancy of Captn. Pigous Company.

It is reported that a Mutiny Bill had been brought into Parliament for authorizing the holding Courts Martial in the Company's Settlements in India & would probably pass we should therefore be glad you would suspend the use of the Commission we have given you, as far as is Consistent with the safety of the Army, as We hope Soon to be able to give you a more ample Power.

Your Success & the Situation of the Enemy are both, Circumstances very agreeable a large Store of Provisions in Trichinopoly will inevitably frustrate any attempts against that Place & this by the favourable Accounts you give us we soon expect to hear of. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS, CHAS. BODDAM, HENRY POWNEY, ALEXR. WYNCH, WILLM. PERCEVAL, JOHN SMITH, CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 12th. Septr. 1754.

P.S. The Warren is just arriv'd & We have receiv'd Powers for appointing Courts Martial you shall have an ample one in a few Days, The Company have also sent us a Packet directed to you containing his Majesty's Brevet to you as Lieutenant Coll. of Foot as there might be some Risque of its falling into the Enemys Hands were We to send it you We shall keep it here 'till We have your Answer. We have also receiv'd the Sword the Company present you with Coll. Heron, & Mr. Orme are arriv'd We shall write you fully in a Day or two.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Admiral Watson.

Gentlemen

I this Morning arriv'd here with his Majesty's Ships Kent and Salisbury, in which Ships are about two hundred Soldiers, who in Consequence of your Opinion dated the 11th. July last, (which I have just receiv'd) will be landed to morrow Morning, and Join Lieutenant Colonel Bagshaw.

The remaining part of the Regiment are on board his Majesty's Ships Bridgwater & Kings Fisher [*sic*] Sloop & three of the Company's Ships; The Bridgwater & Sloop I parted with two Days ago off the North end of Ceylon, but expect to see them

——*FORT ST GEORGE, 12TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [12TH.]

to morrow or next Day at farthest, & I hope very soon to see all the India Ships, and to get the whole Regiment Landed, that they may be ready to act upon the very first Occasion.

I must own, I very readily Concurr with you in regard to your Opinion relating to the Station of the Ships, & think this by much the most adviseable Place to remain in, in the present Circumstances of Affairs, and if Nothing material happens to cause any Alterations in this Disposition, I shall remain here 'till I am forced to retire on Account of the Monsoons setting in, but you may depend I shall exert my utmost Endeavours to continue on this Coast as long as Possible, & to do every thing that will promote the Benefit & Advantage of our Possessions in this part of the World. I am Gentlemen Your most Obedient Servant.

Fort St. David's Road
10th. Septr. 1754. CHAS. WATSON.

P.S. Inclos'd I send you four Packets from the East India Company.

Sent the following Answer to Admiral Watson. 14.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE.

Sir

By your Letter of the 10th. Instant We have the Pleasure to be inform'd of your Arrival at Fort St. David, on which We heartily congratulate you, and hope We shall soon have the Satisfaction to hear the rest of the Fleet have join'd you.

Our Letter of the 11th. July laid before you all We had to offer immediately relative to the Disposition of his Majesty's Ships & We are much pleas'd that your Sentiments & ours concurr, for what may further regard the Squadron in respect to refreshments & Supplys We beg leave to refer you to the Deputy Governour & Council of Fort St. David who have particular Directions for their Guidance.

We shall communicate to you from Time to Time all material Occurrences, that We may have the Advantage of being assisted with your Sentiments, & on all Occasions we beg you will be assur'd of our readiness to do every thing within the limits prescrib'd us that may tend to promote the publick Service & the Contentment of every individual. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants.

Fort St. George
the 14th. Septr. 1754. THOS. SAUNDERS &CA. COUNCIL.

Transcrib'd by John Davidson
and
Examin'd with [*blank in original.*]

Proceedings of the Committee for transacting Affairs with the Country Government, appointed by the Honble the Court of Directors in their General Letter by the Ship Warren dated 2d. March and receiv'd the 12 September 1754.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXR. WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL. MONDAY THE 16TH.

The President lays before the Committee two Letters from Mr. Godeheu dated the 10th. Instant which are enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 26 & 27.

[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 16TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

One regards the Suspension of Arms which he says we seem by the Presidents Letter of the 4th. to intend to confine to Trichinopoly & sends us his Proposals at length contain'd in nine Articles.

Reference being had to that Letter it appears that Mr. Godeheu has either mistaken the Sense of it or rais'd an Objection purposely to gain Time, as his Troops are acting almost without Opposition in this part of the Country; for it is therein expressly said "that Notice shall be given as soon as Conveniently can be to the other Forts & Armies, & to our Allies." His Proposals appearing agreeable to what was wrote him by the President it is agreed that an Answer be sent immediately advising him that We concur in them, & that We only wait for a List of the french Districts that We may give the necessary Orders, that they be not molested.

The other Letter is an Answer to the four Articles propos'd to him as a Basis to the Peace in the President's Letter of the 5th. He makes a grand Objection to the first: that for us to appoint any one to the Subahship of the Carnateck will be giving a Law to the Prince of Decan who only has a Right to dispose of his Dominions & proposes that it be left to him to nominate whom he pleases to the Carnateck.

The Design of this Proposal is very plain. It is known to all the World that Salabad Jung can at present refuse Nothing to the French who have so powerfull a Body of Troops with him. As our Hoñble Masters have transmitted us Copies of the Projects fram'd in Europe by the English & French Company's for our Guidance, it is Resolv'd to take this opportunity of writing a very full Answer to this Letter of Mr. Godeheu's briefly reciting some past Occurrences to shew him that the Disregard of the Government of Pondicherry to the Laws of the Mogul's Empire has been the Sole Source of the Disturbances & then acquainting him frankly with our Demands, vixt. [*sic*] That the English and French each have a Factory at Metchlepatam with equal Forces, that Diu Island be put into the Hands of the Moors and the French Troops withdrawn from all Parts of Golconda; in short, that the English and French enjoy equal Possessions as well to the Northward as in this Province & the Kingdom of Tanjore. These being the Sentiments of our Superiours, this the best Plan for the Encouragement of Commerce, & the only Firm Foundation for a Peace; it is to be hop'd that it will produce a Definitive Answer from Mr. Godeheu, and that if his Professions of a Love of Tranquillity be not Sincere we shall at least have the Advantage of being warn'd of it.

As Mr. Godeheu mentions it would be hard to prove that any of the Men belonging to Captn. Schaub's Party were forc'd to go to Golconda or on board their Ships it is Order'd that the Depositions of Captn. Schaub & his Officers be taken on the Subject.

Captn. Haupp writes that the French Party had taken Utrimaloor, that a Reinforcement was sent from Pondicherry to join them & that he was advis'd their Designs are first against Grandipollam & then to come to Changleput wherefore he again reccommends the Removal of the Prisoners.

Order'd that the Places intended for their Reception be put in readiness as soon as Possible.

Captn. Howes at Arcot, confirms the News of the taking of Grandipollam.

Another Letter from Vencatrow the Mysore Vakeel representing his distress'd Situation & requesting a Supply for his Subsistence; or that he may be permitted to go, that he has something to propose to the President if a Conference can be granted him—Agreed that the Consideration of his Request and his Conference with the President be deferr'd till We can Judge with more Certainty of Mr. Godeheu's Designs.

Letters from Meer Mahomed Audell Amuldar of Trepassore & Meer Rustum Ally and Bandally Beag Amuldars of Chingalapet, expressing their great Joy at our having receiv'd the Saneds from the Nabob.

As it may be necessary for the Kings Troops to take the Field shortly, the Committee are of Opinion that it would be proper for them to form a Camp near the Fort at St. David which would better enable them to Judge what Stores would be

——*FORT ST· GEORGE, 16TH· SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [16TH.]

wanted for any Expedition, It is therefore Agreed that a Letter to that Purport be wrote & lodg'd to be deliver'd to Col[l]· Adlercron on his Arrival and as it will be necessary on this & many Occasions for M[r]· Starke as Deputy Governour of Fort S[t]· David to be acquainted with our Resolutions although he is not nominated one of the Committee, it is order'd that all such Letters be inclose'd to him under a flying Seal for his Perusal.

The Saneds lately granted us by the Nabob for Changelapet, Covelon, Manamangalum & the 84 Villages being for Payment of his Debt to the Company to which Account the Rents are to be brought; In Order to obviate any Complaint that might hereafter be made of our having let those Districts for less than they us'd to produce to the Circar, It is agreed that the Rents of them be settled by Abdul Bob Cawn & Sampetrow before any Cowle be granted.

THO[S]· SAUNDERS.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A[R]· WYNCH.
WILL[M]· PERCEVAL.

Sent a Letter from the President to M[r]· Godeheu of this Date agreeable to yesterday's Resolution regarding the Suspension of Arms, as enter'd in the French Correspondence N[o]· 28. 17TH.

Sent the following General Letter to Col[l]· Adlercron agreeable to yesterday's Resolution.

To COL[O]· JOHN ADLERCRON COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF HIS MAJESTY'S LAND FORCES IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

The London will sail to morrow for Fort S[t]· David with the Detachment of His Majesty's Troops which came out on her, & as We have Directions Sir to advise with you in every thing that concerns them we offer it as our Opinion that it will be best for you to Pitch upon some Spot near the Fort & Encamp your Forces as soon as you conveniently can which will give you an Opportunity of jud[g]ing with more certainty what stores will be necessary for any Expedition you may have Occasion to proceed on, & getting them in readiness.

We hope soon to have the Pleasure to hear of your safe Arrival & are Sir Your most Obedient hble Servants. THO[S]· SAUNDERS—HEN[Y]· POWNEY—ROB[T]· ORME—ALEX[R]· WYNCH—WILL[M]· PERCEVAL.

Fort S[t]· George
17th· Sept[r]· 1754.

The President receiv'd the following Letter from Adm[l]· Watson. 18TH.

To GOVERNOUR SAUNDERS

Sir

I hear the Warren India Ship is arriv'd at Madrass, at which I must own I am a little surpriz'd, for having met with her at Sea I acquainted the Person who came on board of me, that my Intentions were to call at this Place & then govern Myself by the Intelligence I should meet with, for which reason I think he ought to have come here before he went to Madrass, as he has all the Careening Geer & a quantity of Provisions on board of him therefore I must desire you will give him Directions to come here immediately as it is impossible the Squadron can proceed anywhere

[18TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 18TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

without the Naval Stores which he has on board of him for their Use I beg the Favour of your Answer by the Return of the Sloop & am Sir Your most Obedient Servant CHAS. WATSON.

Fort St. George
16th. Sept. 1754.

To which he return'd the following Answer.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE & COMMR. IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

I had this Morning the Pleasure to receive your Letter of the 16th. desiring that the Warren may be immediately sent to you with several Stores on board; The Commander of that Ship was under Orders from the Court of Directors to proceed directly to this Port, & from hence to be dispatch'd to Bombay, but as soon as I was inform'd he had Naval & other Stores on board which you might be in want of, as well as the Land Forces they were order'd to be transported on board the Brittannia when that is compleated which will probably be in a Day or two that Ship shall be directly dispatch'd to Fort St. David. I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant THO. SAUNDERS.

Fort St. George
18th. Sept. 1754.

The President & Council having wrote to Col. Lawrence on the Subject of the Commission they lately sent for holding General Courts Martial desire their Letter may be enter'd in the Proceedings of the Committee, as follows.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

In our last We acquainted you we should soon send you a fresh Commission for holding Courts Martial by Virtue of a late Act of Parliament We had not then had time to look into the Act but on perusing it since We find a Clause whereby the Power of appointing or authorizing such Courts Martial is vested solely in the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces for the Time being but when the King has no Forces in India then the Power of appointing such Courts is in the President & Council therefore the Commission you are now possess'd of becomes Void of Course, if you have made use of it on any Occasion, Please to send us the Proceedings.

Col. Heron acquaints us he can be ready to take the Field by the end of this Month he will accordingly then proceed to Camp.

Enclosed are Extracts from the General Letters lately receiv'd from England also a Packet directed to you, We have another which We Judge to be a Duplicate, it shall be forwarded to morrow. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—AR. HERON—CHAS. BODDAM—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WM. PERCEVAL—JNO. SMITH—CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 18th. Sept. 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 21ST. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [21ST.]

The President wrote Admiral Watson as follows.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO ADMIRAL WATSON DATED 21ST. SEPTR. 1754.

As the Monsoon approaches I should be oblig'd to you to inform me where you purpose wintering if the French should send a Squadron it may probably arrive in January in such Case the earlier ours is on the Coast the better. Bengal I am afraid would be improper for the Capital Ships, but the small ones might there find an agreeable Port & good Refreshment as probably the large ones to the Eastward & by this disposition they might be able to return to the Coast in January.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present. MONDAY THE 23D.

THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXR. WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Two Genl. Letters from Col: Lawrence dated 9th. & 10th. Inst: read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE. No. 67

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your Letters of the 26th. & 27th. No. 21 & 22 & of the 29th. without any Number came safe to me, which I have had no Time to Answer before this Day, having receiv'd them on my Marches; I hope you got my last of the 1st. of September, I have not yet had it in my Power to send you the Answer to Mr. Godeheu's Letters, they not having been transmitted to me but expect them dayly.

Capt: Pascal shew'd me the Reprimand you sent him, I think as he was found Guilty of Disobedience of Orders he ought not to have been permitted to stay in the Service, but he absolutely denies to me his ever acting contrary to them; as this is not a proper Time to make farther Enquiry, We must suspend our Examination to a more favourable Opportunity.

Morarow hitherto has kept his Agreement and We have Advice of his being retir'd to the Northward of Volconda, but whether or no he will quit the Country entirely is what I wont pretend to determine.

On Speaking to Mr. Fraser about his Accounts He informs me he has settled them in the justest manner he can, if any of his Charges appear unreasonable, he is very ready to submit to their being deducted, but at the same Time begs leave to represent that he employ'd no one without Orders; he will explain it more at large in a Letter to you this Day.

Capt: Polier all along receiv'd his Batta as Captain so that if nine Rupees ℔ Day are added to it for the Time I was sick in Trichinopoly, it will make up the Allowance usually given to any Officer that Commands in the Company's Service; The Perquisites arising from the Buzar which I always keep an exact Account of, amounted for the Month of April to 39 Rupees & that of May to 41, His Proportion will be nearly 33 Rupees, which I desire Mr. Wynch will pay him on my Account, at the same Time I must observe that all Profits arising from thence, have been constantly apply'd by me with great Additions out of my own Pocket, to promote the Company's Interest, and I can assure you that whatever Presents I have made the Nellore Subadar; His Extraordinary Zeal for the Service has entitled him to.

The good Opinion the Soldiers entertain of Major Kilpatrick proceeded from their having been so often with him in Action when he had on all Occasions shewn extraordinary Proofs of his Courage & Experience: though I did not find on my

[23RD.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 23D. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

Arrival at Trichinopoly his Health so well establish'd as I could have wish'd, notwithstanding he sallied out of the Garison & was of great Assistance in driving away the Enemy, with so little Loss to ourselves ; He has since offer'd to take the Field under my Command If I thought it necessary, I should gladly have agreed to it, had I not found myself in a good State of Health, and at the same Time thought his presence absolutely necessary in the Fort.

As it will be very dangerous to march so great a Body of Prisoners down the Country when the Enemy are so very near, [*sic*] believe they had better remain where they are till a more favourable Juncture : An Exchange of Prisoners is certainly desirable, but as I don't know that they have any of ours in Syringham, it would be better to give up those in the Arcot Country, as you will be sure of receiving better Men in return, to reinforce you in Proportion to them : If we return those in Trichinopoly, We shall strengthen the Enemy & receive no Supplys ourselves.

The Nabob says Mauphis Cawn will no longer receive the Rents of Conjeveram, a Phirmaund will be sent to the President empowering him to receive them.

From what Judgment I can form of your Strength at Madrass and in the Arcot Country I imagine it would be no difficult Matter to compose a Body strong enough to prevent 500 of the Enemy making any attempt with Success either on Arcot, or Chingalaput but as you are better acquainted with your Situation there you'll Act as you think proper.

My reccommending Lieut. Davis to the Captn. Lieutenancy proceeded from my not being able to get at my Papers, and his applying to me made me naturally conclude he was the Eldest Lieut. I am far from being enclin'd to put any Officer by his preferment, without very sufficient Reasons, & I have none against M^r. Bilhocks succeeding, having always heard he did his Duty as a good Officer.

As to the Treatment of the French Prisoners in Trichinopoly, on our Parts it has always been the mildest possible, Major Kilpatrick has receiv'd repeated Letters of Thanks, both from themselves & the French Commandants, acknowledging that without his Goodness they must inevitably have perish'd weeks having at different Times elapsed, with. any of their Batta being remitted to them.

As it appears by your Letter of the 29th. that the Enemy have been reinforc'd, I think that will be the most prudent step to throw Strong Garrisons into Arcot and Chingalaput.

I am sorry the Anson brought no later Advices from the Company than the 15th. Feby. I hope the Warren will soon Arrive, & give us full Accounts of their Intentions in Europe.

You will be the best Judges whether or no Major Heron should take the Field, & if he does, whether it is proper he should come up here, or go into the Arcot Country.

I am much oblig'd to Our Honoble Masters for taking Notice of my Services, they may be assur'd of my continuing to promote their Interest will [*sic*] all the Zeal imaginable, & omit no opportunity of Distressing their Enemy's.

On my marching the 3d. Instant to get nearer the Enemy, they cross'd the River with so much precipitation, that above 30 of their Europeans were drowned, & some few destroy'd by our Cannonade, they had flooded all the Avenues to their Camp, which render'd it impracticable to pursue or take proper Advantage of their Confusion great Numbers of the Mysore Horse have retir'd into their own Country, & We hope soon to hear the rest are follow'd. The French & they Disagree very much ; Part of the Enemy have cross'd ye Coleroon, should the remainder follow and abandon Syrringham, I shall endeavour if possible to push over after them if I cant get conveniencys [*sic*] for that Purpose must hasten my March through the Tanjore Country.

To morrow I intend sending a Detachment of 5 Officers 200 Men 2 Guns & 600 Seapoys to cover the King of Tanjore's Workmen, who are beginning to repair the Bank near Coilady, which the Enemy destroy'd last Year.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 23D. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [23RD.]

It will give me great Pleasure to be frequently honour'd with your Commands & you may depend on my Executing them with the greatest Chearfullness. I am Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Camp near Tritchinopoly
9th. Septr. 1754. S. LAWRENCE.

To the Hoñble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President.
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George No. 68.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have just receiv'd from the Nabob the Phirmaunds empowering the President to collect the Rents of Conjeveram, I now enclose them to you.

By Letters this Day from Mr. Starke at St. Davids, I am advis'd of the Arrival of the Brittannia Indiaman with Lieutenant Coll. Bagshaw & part of the Kings Forces on board, I hope soon to have the agreeable News that Mr. Watson & the remainder are also safe arriv'd.

I hope you will have receiv'd my Letter of Yesterday, wherein I advis'd you of my present Situation, I am with great Esteem Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt. humble Servant, S. LAWRENCE.

Camp near Trichinopoly
10th. Septr. 1754.

P.S. Lieutenant Tabby died in Trichinopoly the 7th. Instant.

As We have not a Force sufficient here to undertake any material Expedition in the Arcot Country nor even to oppose the french Detachment in the Field, it is agreed that We content ourselves with securing the Possessions We have there, & that Coll. Heron do proceed to Trichinopoly as soon as he conveniently can to take upon him the Command of the Army in case any Indisposition should oblige Coll. Lawrence to quit the Field.

Orderd that an Allowance of 5 Pagodas a Day be made Colo. Heron for his Table while he is in the Field; which will put him upon a footing with the Commanding Officer of the Kings Troops & at the same Time save Expence to the Company for We have found by Experience that the Method now practis'd by their Express Orders of providing Colo. Lawrence's Table on the Company's Account costs considerably more.

Letter from Ensign Fraser to the President on the Subject of the Charges of his Expedition, Order'd that the Commissary examine his Bill & report what Charges appear unreasonable.

General Letter from Major Kilpatrick read as follows.

To the Hoñble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President
& Govrnour &cA. Council of Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I herein enclose you the Garrison Accounts for last Month & take this Opportunity Gentleman [*sic*] to thank you in the sincerest manner for all the Honours and favours you have been pleas'd to confer upon me while in the Company's Service but as I am now told by Colonel Lawrence that there is coming out another Major, I have some Reason to think you may possibly have no further Occasion for my Services in the same Station so that I must beg leave to renew a former Request of going home, As you know very well I could not again serve in any lower Capacity after the Honour you have done me; I am anxious Gentlemen to learn your Resolutions on this

[23RD.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 23D. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

Subject, as I shall be glad to do every thing that is in my Power to promote the Service of the publick & to prove to you with what Sincerity & Respect I have the Honour to be Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Trichinopoly
Septr. ye. 10th. 1754. JAMES KILPATRICK.

Major Kilpatrick being universally allow'd to be the properest Person to command next to Coll. Lawrence and Coll. Heron; if an Accident should happen to either of them and it prove necessary at any time to have two Bodies of Men acting in different Places, his Service would be wanted; It is therefore Agreed that his Brevet be continued to him & that a Letter be wrote to Advise him of it.

The President lays before the Committee a Letter from Mr. Godeheu as enter'd in the french Correspondence No. 29, inclosing twenty Dustuchs (for Passes) for the safe Transportation of Goods in the Country.

An Answer to which as enter'd No. 30 having been prepar'd is order'd to be dispatch'd as soon as the twenty Dustuchs to be sent on our Part are ready & a Draught of the Dustuchs to be enter'd after the Letter.

Coll. Lawrence being of Opinion with us that an Exchange of Prisoners is very desirable in order to free ourselves as far as Possible from that heavy Burthen it is Agreed that a Postcript be added to Mr. Godeheu's Letter to propose it to him & that an Offer be made him to remove all the french Prisoners that may be remaining after the Exchange into our Settlements if he thinks that will be better than their present Situation the Misery of which he has so often enlarg'd on although the Paragraph of Coll. Lawrence's Letter on the Subject gives Room to believe that his Complaints are but ill founded.

The Letter resolv'd in our Meeting the 16th. Instant to be wrote to Mr. Godeheu on the Subject of a Plan for Peace being read in it's rough Draught is approv'd and Order'd to be dispatch'd.

Agreed that a Letter be wrote to advise Coll. Lawrence of all our above Resolutions.

Captain Gaupp writes that the French have done Nothing material Since the taking of Utrimaloor but that their Men are dispers'd in the Villages betwixt that Place & Gingee; and incloses a List of Stores which he desires may be sent before the Monsoon sets in.

Order'd that it be deliverd to the Military Storekeeper.

The Committee thinking it necessary that a Remittance of ten Thousand Pagodas be made for the Use of the Camp,

Order'd that Application be made to the President & Council to issue that Sum to the Commissary for that Purpose.

The Country Correspondence is laid before the Committee vizt.

A Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn inclosing Saneds under his Seal for Changalapet Covelon Manamangalum & the Seven Maganams of the Trepassore Country.

A Copy of one from the Nabob to Antazey Punt his Vackeel inclosing Saneds under the great Seal for Trepassore & the two Conjeverams in Consequence of which We are to hoist the English Flag in those Places in order to secure them from the Demands of the French but the Rents to be paid to the Circar.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 25TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [25TH.]

Sent Bills to Mr. Andrew Newton at Tanjore for 10,000 Pagodas for the Service of the Camp.

Dispatch'd a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu dated the 22d. as Enter'd No. 30 accompanied with twenty Dustucks.

Dispatch'd a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu of this date on the Subject of the Plan for a Peace as Entd. No. 31.

Arriv'd his Majesty's Ship Bridgewater, Captn. William Martin from Fort St. David with Henry Speke Esqr. the Admiral's Captain Passenger.

Sent the following Letters to Lieutt. Colonel Lawrence & Major Kilpatrick agreeable to our Resolution the 23d.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA. No. 1.

Sir

By the Extracts inclos'd in the Letter to you from the President & Council dated the 18 Instant you will see that the Company have been pleas'd to appoint a Committee of Correspondence for all Country Affairs in which Quality we now address you & you will in future direct all your Advices accordingly.

We are to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters of the 9 & 10th. Instant Ns. 67 & 68. We are very sensible of Major Kilpatrick's good Services, & hope that the Company's Appointment of Colonel Heron will not alter his Intentions his Brevet continues in force. That Gentleman will proceed to Camp very very shortly to be in readiness to take the Command in case any Indisposition should hinder you from keeping the Field, we are in Hopes however that you will be able to make at least some Stay after his Arrival, for being a perfect Stranger it will be very proper he should receive some Hints from you & get an Insight into the State of Affairs before he takes upon him the Command.

As the French have a Considerable Body of Troops in the Field this way we think it necessary for the Present to keep the Forces we have here for the Security of our Possessions in this part of the Country; the rather as by your late Advices you seem not to be in want of an immediate Reinforcement should the French Party be order'd to Join their Army at Syringham we can then with Security send a Detachment to you.

Inclos'd are Copies of the Letters to & from Mr. Godeheu since the last sent you, We are in Expectation of his Answer on the Subject of the Suspension and are now writing to him our full Sentiments on the Plan for a Peace which We hope will produce a definitive Answer. If he concurs in the Exchange of Prisoners We shall first Release those from Chingalaput & then make up the Number from Fort St. David in order to prevent the Inconveniences you remark of strengthening their Army at Syringham & in case he agrees to the removing those from Trichinopoly into our Settlements & sends a safe Conduct we shall forward the same to you that you may see it put in Execution.

A Remittance was made last Night to Mr. Newton of ten Thousand Pagodas for the use of the Camp.

Mr. Maunsell having apply'd to the President for Leave to come in for the Recovery of his Health, Mr. James Bourchier is appointed to supply his Place & will proceed in four or five Days, you may therefore acquaint Mr. Maunsel that his Request is granted. The Death of Lieut. Tabby occasions no Vacancy as that Gentleman had only a Brevet.

We received the Phirmaunds inclos'd in your Letter of the 10th for collecting the Rents of Conjeeveram. The President defers Writing to the Nabob till Amuldars are appointed for that Purpose.

Captn. Polier's Allowances shall be paid him agreeable to your Statement & Mr. Fraser's Bill is referr'd to be settled by your Commissary.

[25TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 25TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

Admiral Watson remains at Fort St. David with his Majesty's Ships Kent Salisbury, Bridgewater and King's Fisher Sloop—the Cos. Ship London fell in here with a Detachment of his Majesty's Troops on board & is Sail'd for St. David, but We have yet no news of the Kent Indiaman.

We have lodg'd a Letter for Col°. Adlercron acquainting him with our Sentiments on the State of Affairs. We are in Hopes his Answer will give us some Light into his Instructions about which we are as yet quite at a Loss. We are glad to hear the King of Mysore disagrees with the French, A good Store of Provisions in Trichenopoly added to this may possibly produce some Alteration in his Measures.

We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS, HENRY POWNEY, ROBT. ORME, ALEXR. WYNCH, WM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
25th Sepr. 1754.

We have this moment heard of the Kent's Arrival.

To MAJOR KILPATRICK

Sir

We are to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 10th. with the return of warlike Stores &ca. the Company have been pleas'd to appoint Col°. Heron Major of their Forces on this Establishment but still your Brevet remains in Force being persuaded you will continue to exert that Zeal in the Service you have hitherto done

We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS, HENRY POWNEY, ROBERT ORME, ALEXR. WYNCH, WM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St George
25th. Septr. 1754.

26TH. Rec'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 23d. Entd. N°. 32.

AT A COMMITTEE

THURSDAY THE 26TH. *Present*

THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXR. WYNCH WM. PERCEVAL.

The President lays before the Committee a Letter he has just receiv'd from Mr. Godeheu dated the 23d. which is enter'd in the french Correspondence N°. 32.

We imagine that Mr. Godeheu's Reason for declining to send a List of the french Districts is that he is unwilling to make a publick Profession of the largeness of their Pretensions & it may thence be concluded that although we should transmit him a List of ours he would yet find some means to evade the doing it on his Part. It is therefore now taken into final Consideration whether to accept the Suspension or not, on the Articles contain'd in Mr. Godeheu's Letter of the 10th. Instant.

The Conclusion of it seems to be attended with the following Advantages.

The Supplying Trichinopoly with Provisions will be render'd easy & secure, & that is now the grand Object of our attention.

The King of Mysore seeing that may perhaps incline to drop his attempt, the rather as he will be very averse to keeping inactive Troops in pay for three Months.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [26TH.]

It will secure our Possessions this way which would otherwise be in some Danger from the large Body of the Enemy now in the Field, as the King's Troops will not be ready to act for some Time.

On the other Hand no material Advantage could be gain'd by continuing the Hostilities during the rainy Season for the Enemy being lodg'd at Syringham would be secure from any attempt of our Army. It is therefore Resolv'd that the Suspension be accepted, but that the Articles be not sign'd & transmitted to Mr. Godeheu untill We receive his Answer on the Subject of our Plan for a Peace which may possibly make it necessary to alter our Resolution.

The President receiv'd the following Letter from Admiral Watson by Captn. Speke.

Sir

His Majesty having consented to employ a part of his Sea & land Forces in this part of the World, by the Entreaty & desire of the East India Company in order to advance their Interest against the Artifices daily practic'd here by the French, in Consequence of which, I have the Honour of the Command of His Majesty's Squadron in these Seas, & that no opportunity might be lost of doing every thing in my power to promote the Design of my being sent here, I immediately acquainted you with my Arrival as soon as I came to an Anchor, since when I have been in Expectation to have receiv'd from you some Account of the present State of Affairs, in order to give me an Opportunity of knowing how or in what manner I might be of most Service to the general Good.

The Time now begins to draw nigh when I shall be under a Necessity of leaving the Coast on Account of the Monsoon's breaking up, therefore it is absolutely necessary, if you propose any Advantages from the assistance of his Majesty's Squadron under my Command, that you do acquaint me if you have any Plan of Operation to offer, that I might be in readiness to put the same in Execution at my Arrival here next Season, provided your Proposals do not exceed the Limits of my Orders, which are to assist you & your Allies, as well with my best Advice, as the force under my Command, against any attacks made on either of your Properties by any foreign Power whatsoever, & as I am also confin'd by my Instructions to leave this Coast in the first Week in October. which is now so nearly advanc'd, that it is scarcely possible I can be so well acquainted with the Situation of Affairs by the few Letters there is time now for passing between us, as if I was at Madrass, & that being impossible both on Account of the Time of the Monsoon being so near breaking up, as well as my present ill State of Health I have therefore sent Captn. Speke (in whom I place great Confidence) and desire that whatever you may think will promote the Interest & advantage of the East India Company in this part of the World you will communicate the same to him without any Kind of Reserve. You will no doubt make him thoroughly acquainted with what has been done since he left India, & offer your Thoughts freely to him how you think the Squadron can be most advantageously dispos'd of next Season, which I shall chearfully put in Execution, if your Scheme has the Shew of a probability of succeeding & I have no doubt to the Contrary, as you will have the Advantage of Captn. Speke's Opinion on that Head before I know what you resolve on. I can only add that I shall be glad on all Occasions to do the utmost in my Power to promote the Interest of the Company, & only wait to be inform'd of the means to know how I may most effectually do it. Give me leave to assure you that I am with great regard Sir Your most obedient Servt.

Kent
Fort St. David
24th. Septr. 1754.

CHARLES WATSON.

[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

The Admiral we judge had not at that Time receiv'd the President's Letter of the 21st. in which he wrote him his Sentiments with regard to the Disposition of the Squadron. He is now desir'd to discourse with Captn. Speke & inform him fully of the State of Affairs, more particularly what has pass'd with Mr. Godeheu that the Admiral may be enabled to Judge how far he is inclin'd to an Accomodation.

Mr. Newton at Tanjore advises that Mauphoos Cawn arriv'd at Trichinopoly the 16th. that Monogee with the Tanjore Horse is protecting the People at Work on the Bank & that there is a Report of his coming to Tanjore in a few Days, with which he has acquainted Colonel Lawrence.

Captn. Howes advises that six Horsemen were come from Morarow to Abdul Bob Cawn but he could not learn the Particulars of their Message, only that they brought assurances that the Horse should not come to make any Disturbances in these Parts, & incloses Letters from Muzepher Cawn Bahader, a Jemmidar in the Nana's Army who desires leave come [*sic*] with his Family to reside here or at Fort St. David; As Richard Bourchier Esqr. Governour of Bombay has wrote to the President in his Favour, it is agreed that his Request be granted.

The material Country Letters receiv'd since last meeting are

One from the King of Tanjore reciting the Contents of a Letter wrote to him by Mr. Godeheu that he was his "firm Friend & that his only Aim was to settle the Country" in Answer to which he wrote Mr. Godeheu that "if his Inclinations were for Peace he should recall his Troops to Pondicherry & not act in Conjunction with the Enemy."

One from the Nabob with Copy of a Letter wrote him by Mr. Delarche at Pondicherry which is found to contain a pompous Account of the Force Mr. Godeheu brought out with him, enlarging at the same Time on the Sincerity of his Inclinations for Peace.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM: PERCEVAL.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

SATURDAY THE 28TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT

ALEXR. HERON	CHAS. BODDAM	HENRY POWNEY
ROBT. ORME	ALEXR. WYNCH	WILLM. PERCEVAL
JOHN SMITH	CHARLES BOURCHIER.	

Two Letters from Coll. John Adlercron read as follows the Subject of them being very material it is thought proper not to confine the Consideration of it to the Committee only but to have the Sentiments of the whole Board.

TO THE HONBLE THE PRESIDENT & COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemen

Yesterday I arriv'd here & all my People in good Health & had the Pleasure of receiving two Letters from you dated the 9th. & 17th. of September. I cannot say but I was much surpris'd on my Arrival to find the Accomodation both for Officers & Soldiers so much worse than what I had reason to expect, & was further surpris'd at receiving a Message at Noon that the Men of my Regiment should no longer be provided with Provisions, though part of them landed late in the Evening, & some-

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 28TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [23RD

this Morning, & at the same time no Care was taken to furnish the Market with Provisions, & this (said to be done) by an Order from the President & Council at Madrass.

Last Night was deliver'd to me by Mr. Fairfield as Secretary to the Deputy Governour & Council of Fort St. Davids, an Extract of Letters from the Court of Directors & of one from the President & Council at Madrass (said by him to be as far as the Letters relate to his Majesty's Troops) in which there is a Regulation of the Allowance to be made to the several Officers & Ranks of the Kings Troops, to make their pay equal to those of the East India Company on which I must observe that the Indulgences there mention'd are not as I am inform'd equal to those enjoy'd by the Officers of the East India Company on which I must observe of my Regiment & Artillery, who have in this no Allowance made them that in the King's Service are always allow'd in Proportion to their Pay & the nature of their Employments; & that some of the Officers of the Artillery are not allowed equal to the Officers of my Regiment who have the same Rank; & there are also a considerable Number of Volunteers who are all Gentlemen & are not consider'd in any other Shape than as private Soldiers.

In his Majesty's Instructions to me (of which I send you a Copy) you will find I am strictly directed to consider the Honour of his Forces, the good of the Service, & the Interest of the East India Company, I cannot think I discharge the Trust His Majesty has repos'd in me If I do not observe to you that it will certainly be a discouragement to the Troops, & of Consequence a detriment to the Service of the East India Company, if the King's Troops sent over now should be treated worse than the Kings Troops sent over under the Command of Admiral Boscawen, & therefore reccommend it to you that they may in every Respect be put on the same footing with those under the Command of Mr. Boscawen I can certainly assure you that all the Officers & Soldiers order'd on this Service have shewn the greatest Chearfullness to serve the Company & to live in Harmony with their Troops, & I hope that it will be the study of those who have Authority on both Sides to cultivate that good understanding so earnestly reccommended by his Majesty; & though you may seem to be tied up by the Instructions you have receiv'd from the Court of Directors which might be agreeable to the Knowledge they then had of the Situation of Affairs here, Yet as it is impossible that Persons at so great a Distance can give Directions for every thing that may happen, I am in hopes that you have Power to make such Alterations as may be conducive to so good a Purpose as Harmony, the Honour of the King's Troops, & Service of the East India Company.

As to Myself I cannot help thinking it strange that in the allowance for my Table two Person's should be forc'd on me whether agreeable or not; a Thing unprecedented in any Service & never mention'd to me in any Shape by any of the Directors: I knew Nothing of the Allowance of Forty Shillings a Day for my Table 'till a day or two before I left Cork, otherwise should have objected to it, as I gave positive Directions to my Agent in London to insist on a Thousand Pounds a Year.

If the Warren had thought proper to put in here We might have got our Tents, & other Equipage ashore before this, & been ready to take the Field at a Minutes warning; tho' I am inform'd it will be very dangerous before the Monsoons are over. I am Gentlemen Your most Obedient & very humble Servant

Cuddalore
24th. Septr. 1754. JOHN ADLERCRON.

TO THE HONBLE THE PRESIDENT & COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemen

Enclos'd I have sent you Copies of his Majesty's Instructions & the Powers with which I am entrusted on this Coast, I believe you will judge it proper I should be acquainted with the state of your Affairs, the Number of your Troops, & where

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employ'd with the nature of your Alliances, & your further Views as soon as Possible that I may be the better able to make a Disposition of his Majesty's Troops to assist those of the Company.

I this Day requir'd a Return from Mr. Starke of the Company's Troops at Fort St. David, which he has refus'd me untill he receive Directions from the President and Council of Fort St. George. If I am to meet every where with Delays of this kind His Majesty's Intentions are render'd ineffectual, & the Company's Business must suffer, as there is now no other Military Authority on this Coast but what is lodg'd in my Hands. I hope you will therefore give such Directions to the Government & other authorities however denominated that are dependant on Fort St. George, immediately to comply with such Orders as I shall Issue which relate to Military Affairs: And I desire I may receive a state of the Company's Forces at Fort St. George & what Number can be spar'd in case of Emergency.

The President & Council will please to Consider how the general Council nominated by the Court of Directors may best Answer the purpose for which they are form'd, In my Opinion by giving Power to three of them to act as a Committee of the whole is design'd that those three should be near the Scene of Action the better to concert with me such Plan of Operations as Circumstances may require, & indeed without such attendance the Service must meet with endless Interruptions.

This is what occurs to me at present. I shall from Time to Time write to you on other Matters as they offer, & give every proof in my Power of my Inclination to concur with you in every Measure that may contribute to the Honour & Interest of the Company Affairs. & I am sincerely Gentlemen Your most Obedient & very humble Servant

Cuddalore
24th. Septr. 1754. JNO. ADLERCRON

George R. Here the broad Seal is plac'd in the Original.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUR TRUSTY & WELL BELOVED COLONEL JOHN ADLERCRON, COMMANDING IN CHIEF THE LAND FORCES TO BE EMPLOY'D IN THE EAST INDIES OR TO THE OFFICER COMMANDING FOR THE TIME BEING. GIVEN AT OUR COURT AT ST. JAMES'S. THE SECOND DAY OF MARCH 1754 IN THE TWENTY SEVENTH YEAR OF OUR REIGN.

Whereas the United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies have humbly represented unto us that having enter'd into Compacts with some of the Princes of the Indian Country, agreeable to our Royal Charter, for giving them Aid & Assistance against their Enemies & endeavour'd at a very great Expence, to the utmost of their Ability, to perform such Engagements, but that they find the Burthen too heavy for them & therefore humbly pray for our Royal Protection; And whereas we are willing & desirous to maintain the said Company in all their just Rights & Priviledges; We have thought fit to direct you to repair forthwith to the East Indies with the Regiment under your Command on board such of our Men of War & Transports as we have directed should forthwith repair to Cork in our Kingdom of Ireland where you are to embark the Troops And upon your Arrival in India, you shall take upon you the Command of all the Forces, belonging to the Company on the Coast of Coromandel & do your utmost to perform such Services, as may be most conducive to the Interest of the said Company & of such Indian Princes with whom they have or may contract Engagements, according to the Directions herein after mention'd. And whereas the East India Company have directed a certain Number of Persons employ'd in their Service to form themselves into a General Council in order to consider of, & resolve upon, a proper Plan of Operation; you will assist the said Council therein with your best Advice; And when such General Plan of Operation shall be settled & agreed upon by the said Council, you shall lay the same before a Council of War which in all Matters wherein our Naval Force are to co-operate shall consist of yourself, Rear Admiral Watson, or the Commander in Chief of our Ships of War, for the Time being,

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 28TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [28TH.]

Lieut^{t}. Col^{l}. Scott Lieut^{t}. Col^{l}. Bagshaw Lieut^{t}. Col^{l}. Lawrence, & Major Lovett; But in all Matters which only relate to the operations of our Land Forces, the said Council of War shall consist of yourself, Lieut^{t}. Col^{l}. Scott L^{t}. Col^{l}. Bagshaw L^{t}. Col^{l}. Lawrence & Major Lovett; & taking their Advice & Assistance, you shall make use of the Force under your Command, in order to put the same in Execution, in the best manner possible, unless the whole or any part thereof shou'd appear to the Majority of the Council of War to be impracticable. And whereas it may be requisite & necessary for you to have intercourse, by Letter Message or otherwise with the Officers, Civil and Military, of other European Princes, you shall in such Case take & use the Title of Colonel in our Service, & of Commander in Chief of the Troops of the English East India Company.

And whereas during the Troubles which have lately arisen in India the Company has taken no other Share therein than as Auxiliaries to the Princes of India with whom they have contracted Engagements; it is our Express Will & Pleasure, that you should cautiously avoid whatever may be construed an Act of Hostility against the Settlem^{ts}., Possessions or Subjects of any European Prince or Potentate unless the General Council, nominated by the East India Company as abovemention'd, should think it absolutely necessary for you to make Reprisals, or that you should be forc'd thereto by any Notorious Ouvert Act of Violence, committed on the part of such Europeans.

You shall keep a regular Diary of all your Proceedings & shall transmit, by every possible Opportunity, a full & clear account thereof, to one of our principal Secretaries of State; with whom only you shall Correspond upon the several Services which shall be undertaken by you & the Forces under your Command, in Consequence of the Resolutions of the abovemention'd General Council & also with relation to the several Points contain'd in these Instructions.

G.R.

A true Copy
Jno.
Adlercron.

ORDERS & INSTRUCTIONS FOR COL^{L}. JOHN ADLERCRON COMMANDING IN CHIEF THE LAND FORCES TO BE EMPLOY'D IN THE EAST INDIES, OR OFFICER COMMANDING IN CHIEF FOR THE TIME BEING.

George R.

You will before embarking call together the Officers under your Command & reccommend to them in a particular Manner the avoiding all Manner of Disputes with the Officers of our Royal Navy & that they use their utmost Endeavours to live with them in the greatest Harmony, as the contrary Behaviour will be very displeasing to us, and unbecoming in Officers serving the same Sovereign, as well as detrimental to the service they are Jointly to be employ'd in the respective Officers of Companies are to reccommend the same to the noncommission'd Officers & Soldiers under their Command, the Officers of our Royal Navy having the same Orders, as to their Behaviour to our Land Forces.

You will give the strictest Orders for keeping up good Discipline & Regularity both whilst the Troops are on board & on shore, & if any commission'd non-commission'd Officer or Soldier shall be guilty of a Crime or Disorder whilst on board our Ships of War, he shall be immediately confin'd & a Report thereof made to the Captain of our said Ship, as well as to the Commanding Officer of the Troops; & proceeded against in the manner directed by an Act of Parliament of the 22^{d}. Year of our Reign, entitled an Act for amending explaining & reducing into one Act of Parliament the Laws relating to the Government of his Majesty's Ships, Vessels and Forces by Sea, But for Crimes committed by Non-commission'd Officers or Soldiers on Board the Ships of the East India Company, You will Order Courts Martial to be held on board & the Delinquents punish'd there.

The Commanding Officers of our Troops on board our Ships of War shall give the necessary Orders for the Troops under their Command, consulting with the Captains of Ships in every thing relating to their Service on board dividing the Men into Watches with a proportionable Number of Commission'd & non-commission'd Officers,

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& appointing an Officers Guard to mount daily on board, consisting of such Numbers as shall be agreed upon betwixt the Captain of the Ship & the commanding Officer of the Land Forces; & in the Ships belonging to the East India Company of such Number as the Commanding Officer of the Troops shall Direct, after consulting with the Master Commander of the said Ship.

The necessary Orders shall likewise be given for Airing the Bedding daily, for keeping the Births clean & sweet for preventing Gaming selling Drams or Spirituous Liquors, & putting out the Lights between Decks, with all which commission'd Officers shall be chargeable.

No Officer or Soldier shall go on Shore out of any of our Ships of War without the Consent of the Captain of the Ship as well as of the Commanding Officer of the Land Forces; & whenever any Men are allow'd to go on shore, Commission'd or non-Commission'd Officers are to be sent with them who are to be answerable for their Conduct whilst on shore, & are to make a Report thereof upon their Return on Board.

Weekly Returns of the Officers & Men of our Land Forces on Board each Ship shall be constantly made out & sent to You, as often as Opportunity Offers, & Monthly returns of our Forces under your Command shall be made & transmitted for us to our Secretary at War, as also a Report of every thing that happens, whenever you have an Opportunity of sending them.

You will also make your Secretary keep a Journal or Diary of all material Occurrences during your Command.

Whenever it shall be determin'd by the General Council to land the Troops or undertake any Service with them you will Summon your Council of War, which is to consist of Yourself Lieut^{t}· Col^{l}· Scott Lieut^{t}· Col^{l}· Bagshaw, Lieut^{t}· Col^{l}· Lawrence, & Major Lovett; & you will lay before them the Proposal of the General Council, taking the Opinion of the Majority as to the Practicability of the same, & as to the best manner of putting it in Execution: And in all Matters of Consequence you will take the Advice & opinion of the said Council of War & enter the same in your Journal or Diary.

You are as often as the Commanding Officer of our Ships of War shall require, to order such a Number of the Land Forces under your Command as shall be judg'd necessary to serve on Board our Ships of War.

In Case of Death or other Accidents happening to any of the Officers appointed to form the Council of War You shall take in the Officer or Officers who may be appointed to Succeed them, & if any Accident should happen to yourself, these Orders & Instructions shall be punctually follow'd & observed by whoever may Command in Chief in your Stead.

You will Order such General Courts Martial to Sit as may be necessary to try Offenders whether Officers or Soldiers of the Land Forces, You will Confirm the Sentences thereof if you approve of the same, and Order such Sentences to be put in Execution according to the Power given you by our Warrant accompanying these our Orders & Instructions.

You will transmit with as much Expedition as the Opportunity of Time & Distance of Place can admit the Original Proceedings & Sentence of every General Court Martial to the Judge Advocate General in London.

You will upon any Vacancies of Officers in our Troops under your Command, post Officers in their Room having regard to the Merit of such Officers as well as to their Seniority, which last is to give way to the good of the Service, if you can give a sufficient Reason for setting the same aside; which you are to do in the Account you transmit to our Secretary at War for our Approbation: & such Vacancies as may happen of Ensigns in the Regim^{t}· under your Command, or of Lieutenant Fire Workers in the Detachm^{t}· of our Royal Artillery, you are to fill up by posting of the Cadets (who are sent out to be provided for by you according to the List given you herewith) to such Vacancies.

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In every thing you will consider the Honour of our Forces, the good of the Service, & the Interest of the East India Company, whose Territories & Commerce you are sent to protect & Establish: You will therefore chearfully concur in all Things which the Commander in Chief of our Fleet, The principal Officers of the East India Company, & your Council of War shall Judge conducive thereto, & for that Purpose you will use your utmost Endeavours to preserve a good Harmony & Understanding betwixt our Sea & Land Forces & those of the East India Company.

Given at our Court at St. James's this 25th. Day of February 1754. in the Twenty seventh Year of our Reign.

A true Copy — By His Majesty's Command.

Jno. Adlercron — Sign'd H. Fox.

The most essential Points in the foregoing Letters and Instructions to be now consider'd are.

1st. Whether as Coll. Adlercron's Instructions are Sign'd by his Majesty & he is thereby directed—"to take upon him the Command of all the Forces belonging to "the Company on the Coast of Coromandel, an absolute Obedience be paid thereto without any Consideration of Circumstances Or

2dly. Whether the President & Council are not to guide themselves by the Orders & Instructions of the Major Part of the Court of Directors so far as they are authoris'd by their Charter, And

3dly. If such Orders of the Court of Directors are to be a Rule for the Conduct of the President & Council, Whether Coll. Adlercron's Demand of a Return of the Company's Forces be complyed with, And whether all such Orders as he shall Issue relating to Military Affairs be obey'd as he desires.

1st. In regard to the first Point the several Members of the Board declare that they have the highest Notions of the Allegiance due to his Sacred Majesty, & of [*sic*] deference, due to his Commands but in regard to the present Case are unanimously of Opinion that although Coll. Adlercrons Instructions from his Majesty do direct him to take the Command of the Company's Forces, yet the Intention of those Instructions, the Rights & Priviledges of the Company, & the Consequences that might arise from an immediate complyance which [*sic*] Coll. Adlercron's Demand are circumstances necessary to be consider'd.

2dly. The Board are unanimously of Opinion that the Orders of the Majority of the Court of Directors so far as they are authoris'd by their Charter are a sufficient Authority to justify the Conduct of their President & Council.

3dly. The Court of Directors have not in any of their Letters signified to their President & Council on this Coast that their Forces are to be put under the Command of Coll. Adlercron but on the contrary in the 13th Paragraph of their Commands dated the 2d. March 1754. (speaking of the Civilities shewn his Majesty's Officers, they only say his *Majesty* has appointed Coll. Adlercron Commander in Chief, & in the 24th. Paragraph of the same Letter they direct that the Plans to be form'd by the Committee be communicated to Coll. Adlercron or the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Land Forces for the Time being. The yielding up to Coll. Adlercron the Chief Command of all the Company's Forces is an Affair of such Consequence that it is not to be imagin'd the Court of Directors would have omitted to apprize their President & Council of such a Resolution had it been taken because as such a Command puts it into the Cols Power to draw every Man out of the Company's Garrisons there will remain with the President & Council only a shadow of Government but that it could not be his Majesty's Intention to invest Coll. Adlercron with such a Command very plainly appears by several Circumstances, amongst which these are striking; His Majesty in those very Instructions where Coll. Adlercron is directed to take the Command of the Company's Forces, is

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graciously pleas'd to declare that he is willing & desirous to maintain the Company in all their just Rights & priviledges, Now it is incontestably true that by Virtue of his Majesty's Charter bearing Date at Westminster the 8th. Day of January in the 26th. Year of His Majesty's Reign, they have a just Right & Priviledge to raise & maintain a Body of standing Forces on this Coast & to appoint Generals of such Forces & Military Officers, they have done so, & untill they revoke such Appointments they must continue in Force. Another very strong Proof that it was not intended to invest Coll. *Alderc'on* [*sic*] with the Chief Command of all the Company's Forces on this Coast appears from the Articles of War which his Majesty hath establish'd by Virtue of the Power given him for that purpose by the Act for punishing Mutiny & Desertion in India, in Article 4th. Sect. 15 of those Articles it is express'd that the Officers of his Majesty's Land Forces employ'd in the East Indies, are, on all Detachments, Courts martial or other Duty wherein they may be *join'd* with the Officers of the Company, to Command & take Post of the Company's Officers tho' the Commissions of the Company's officers of the like Rank should be of older Dates—this & this only is the superiour Command his Majesty has been pleas'd under the Sanction of Parliament to invest his Officers with over those of the Company, a Command to which the readiest Obedience shall be paid by the Company's Officers whenever they are Joind with his Majestys—

For the several Reasons aforesaid the Board are unanimously of opinion that no return of the Company's Forces be sent Coll. Adlercron at present nor his Orders submitted to as Ultimate but as it is necessary for the good of the Service to avoid giving any Disgust it is agreed to conceal from Coll. Adlercron these Sentiments at present in hopes that some means may be found to adjust the Points in Dispute to the Satisfaction of all Parties & to that end that Mr. Starke be directed to Acquaint Coll. Adlercron verbally or by Letter (but not in form of a Return) with the State of the Company's Forces at Fort St. David, & that a Letter from the Board be address'd to the Coll. desiring his Presence here as the readiest way to settle all the Points he seems dissatisfied with & at the same Time that the State of the Companys Affairs may with greater facility be communicated to him & the proper Plans of Operation concerted.

Agreed that Copies of Coll. Adlercron's Letters and his Majesty's Instructions to him be sent to Lieut. Coll. Lawrence & his Opinion desir'd on the foregoing Points.

Copies of the General Letters wrote to Coll. Adlercron the Deputy Governour & Council of Fort St. David, Mr. Starke & Lieut. Coll. Lawrence on this Subject are order'd to be enter'd hereafter.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
ALEXR. HERON.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH,
CHS. BOURCHIER.

To COLONEL JOHN ADLERCRON COMMANDER
IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S LAND FORCES IN INDIA,

Sir

Your safe Arrival at Fort St. David with the Troops under your Command gives us the Pleasure of offering you our Congratulations with repeated Assurances of our Sincere Intentions as far as We are authoris'd to do every Thing that may conduce to the publick Service, but how great soever the Satisfaction may be which We receive by the arrival of so seasonable a Succour it would have been much more Compleat if some parts of the two Letters you have favour'd us with both dated the 24th. Instant did not give us some Apprehensions that the Instructions We have receiv'd from

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, 28TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [28TH.]

the Court of Directors are not perfectly agreeable to your Expectations, We purposely avoid entering on these Points now because the treating Subjects of this Nature by Letter seldom produces so Speedy an Eclaircissement as verbal Explanations, We are therefore of Opinion it would be a great means of forwarding the Service if you would give us the Pleasure of seeing you here when a full State of our Affairs may be much more conveniently communicated to you & the proper Plans concerted, if you should concur with us in these Sentiments Mr. Starke has our Directions to dispatch the first of the Company's Ships that may be ready if that Conveyance is agreeable to you We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—ALEXR. HERON—CHAS. BODDAM—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM PERCEVAL—JOHN SMITH—CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
the 28th. Septr. 1754.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNOUR &CA.
COUNCIL OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Gentlemen [*sic*].

Henceforward We shall write you in seperate Letters whatever We may have to communicate touching his Majesty's Fleet, Land Forces & Military Operations you must observe the same Rule in your Advices to us & not Blend those Affairs with the Company's commercial Concerns. Vide Genl. Letter from St. David dated 26 Septr. 1754. entd. in Books of Letters rec'd. No. 181. & Consultation 30th. Septr. 1754.

Whatever Demands or Requests his Majesty's Officers may make to you let them be in writing, Copies of which you will send us.

Your applying to us again to know whether the Kings Troops are to be victuall'd for fourteen Days is unnecessary, on referring to our Letter of the 14 Septr. you will there find it expressly directed, as well as that you should take care a well regulated & plentifull Buzar be kept at Cuddalore, if this is attended to, the King's Hospital may be easily supplied you are to take care that it be so, the Company not being put to any Expence thereby.

You may Order Pallanquins to be made for the Coll. Lieutt. Coll. & Major to be in readiness against they take the Field & if any Horses are procureable provide three for the use of those Gentlemen.

In regard to the Return which Coll. Adlercron demands We gave Mr. Starke Directions the 28th. Ulto. how to act but if he should still require Returns & insist on giving the Parole at St. David you may say that you cannot comply without our positive Directions which We have not given you because We expect to see the Coll. here when We hope to adjust those Points satisfactorily. We are Gentlemen [*sic*] Your Affectionate Friends & Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—ALEXR. HERON—CHAS. BODDAM—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WM. ILL [*sic*] PERCEVAL—JOHN SMITH—CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
1st. October 1754

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNOUR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

By two Letters we have receiv'd from Coll. Adlercron We observe such a Spirit of Discontent that We are not without Apprehensions the publick Service may meet with some Check to prevent it as much as Possible you will see by the enclos'd Letter (which is left open for your Perusal) We have desir'd he will come hither when We hope some Means may be found to adjust every thing Satisfactory, if he should accept our Offer of a Passage on one of the Company's Ships you will order

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him to be accomodated in the best manner & dispatch the first Ship that may be unloaded when he is ready, in the mean Time to avoid giving any Disgust We would have you communicate to him verbally or by Letter a State of the Company's Forces at Fort St. David but this must not be done in form of a Return for We cannot comply with his Demand on this Head however you will for the present conceal from him these our Sentiments. We are Sir Your Affectionate Friends and Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS—ALEXR. HERON—CHARLES BODDAM—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—JNO. SMITH—CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
28th. Sept. 1754.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

By the inclos'd Copies of Coll. Adlercron's Instructions you will observe that he is directed to take the Command in Chief of all the Company's Forces on this Coast & by the Copies of his two Letters you will perceive he means to do it, His Instructions are Sign'd by his Majesty, but the Company describe him to us in no other Light than as Commander in Chief of the Kings Land Forces, as we would avoid every thing that might disgust or inflame we have not answer'd any of these Points but have represented to the Colonel that We think it would be for the good of the Service if he were to come hither that We may communicate to him with greater facility the State of our Affairs, concert with him the proper Measures to be taken, & adjust the Points he seems dissatisfied with, We have also directed Mr. Starke to give him verbally or by Letter a State of the Company's Forces at St. David but not in the manner of a Return. You are now inform'd of every Step We have taken in this Affair & you are furnish'd with all the Materials We can assist you with towards forming a Judgment whether Coll. Aldercron's [*sic*] Pretensions should be admitted or not, the Consequences of a Complyance are such as would not be very pleasing to Us, on the whole We desire your Opinion & reccommend to your attentive Perusal the Act for punishing Mutiny & Desertion in India & the Articles of War, particularly Article 2d. of Sect: 4th. & Articles 3d. & 4 of Section 15th.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
30th Septr. 1754.

THOMAS SAUNDERS—CHARLES BODDAM—AR. HERON—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL—JOHN SMITH—CHAS. BOURCHIER.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

SATURDAY THE 28TH.

The Circumstances of the foregoing Consultation being consider'd by the Committee; the Points to be settled with the commanding Officer of the King's Troops appear of such a Nature that it may be imagin'd they will not take the Field till they are adjusted, or at least, not act with that Concert & Harmony so necessary to give Success to any Enterprise, & as this adjustment must take up Time during

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 28TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [28TH.]

which if the French should push the Advantage they have in the Arcot Country they might make a Considerable Progress & should the News of these Discontents reach Pondicherry Mr. Godeheu might purposely decline the Suspension, It is therefore unanimously resolv'd that the Articles be immediately sign'd & transmitted to Mr Starke with Orders to concert with Mr. Godeheu the spediest Means of exchanging the Ratifications—Agreed that the 11th. Day of October be fix'd for the Commencement of the Suspension by which Time the necessary Orders may reach all the Troops & Garrisons of the two Nations.

Order'd that Letters be wrote to advise Colonel Adlercron & Lieutt. Coll. Lawrence of the Suspension & that they be lodg'd with Mr. Starke to be forwarded as soon as the Ratifications are exchang'd.

The President acquaints the Committee that he has discours'd with Captn. Speke very fully on the State of Affairs & finds him also of Opinion that it would be very much for the good of the Service if the Admiral could winter at some Place so as to return to the Coast early, because if the French should send out a Fleet, as in all probability they will as soon as they are certainly inform'd of the Destination of ours, such Fleet may be expected to arrive in January at which Time Hostilities are to reccommence & will be push'd probably with more Vigour than ever if an Accomodation should not take place which there is too much Reason to fear—It will be necessary therefore to be prepar'd to exert our utmost Efforts at that Time and the Presence of his Majesty's Ships would be extreemly usefull on many Accounts, particularly in case of Necessity some Men might be landed from them to protect our Garrisons which would enable us to send our whole Force into the Field.

The President is desir'd to write a Letter to the Admiral by Captain Speke setting forth our above Sentiments and assuring him of our firm Confidence in his Zeal for the Service.

Thos. Saunders.
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
Ar. Wynch.
Willm. Perceval.

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu of this Date No. 33 advising him that we accept the Suspension, that the Articles are sign'd & sent to Mr. Starke who will concert Measures with him for Exchanging the Ratifications. 29TH.

Sent the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr. with the Articles of the Suspension (as under) sign'd

To Richard Starke Esqr.

Sir

Having agreed upon Articles for a Suspension of Hostilities between the English & French Nations in the Carnateck We send them herein inclos'd, Sign'd; & you are without loss of Time to concert with Mr. Godeheu the speediest Method of Exchanging the Ratifications either by sending a Person to Pondicherry, his sending one to Fort St. David, or each to send a Deputy to meet half way. Whichever Method he may propose to you, accept at once, that no time may be lost in so immaterial a Discussion.

Immediately on the Ratification of the Suspension you are to deliver our Letter to Coll. Adlercron to dispatch the inclos'd to Coll. Lawrence, & to give strict Orders to the Chief of Deve Cotah that he observe the same. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants, Thomas Saunders—Henry Powney—Robert Orme—Alexander Wynch—William Perceval.

Fort St. George
29th. Septr. 1754.

[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 29TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

Articles concluded between Thomas Saunders Esqr. President and Governour on the Coast of Choromandel in behalf of the English East India Company, & Charles Robert Godeheu Esqr. his most Christian Majesty's Commissary & Governour General of all the French Settlements in behalf of the French East India Company for a Suspension of Arms in the Carnateck.

1st. To begin from the 11th October the Day on which the Suspension of Arms shall be publish'd to all the Troops in all the Forts & actual Possessions of the two contracting Nations in the Karnateck, all Acts of Hostility shall cease between the French & the English.

2d. During the Course of this Suspension which shall be for three Months, their Troops shall not Act against each other not only as Principals, but even as Auxiliaries.

3d. The two Nations shall oblige their Allies to enter into the same Agreement.

4th. If either of the two Nations French or English shall commit any Act of Hostility, possess themselves of any Place: or either Occasion any Damage to the other after the Day of the Publication of the said Suspension, both oblige themselves to make Reparation proportionable to the damage & to the entire restitution of whatever was taken.

5th. If the Allies or other Troops in the pay of either Nation shall commit any Act of Hostility or plunder the Territories of which either Nation is now in possession it shall be lawfull for both Nations to repulse their Insults by Force by which the injur'd Nation shall not be deem'd to have infring'd the present Agreement.

6th. If the Allies or auxiliary Troops of either Nation shall take Arms or insult, the Countries of which the Nation they were allie'd to is now in Possession, the two Nations shall succour each other in this Case to oppose this Enemy who should become thereby a common Enemy to both.

7th. The Troops of the two Nations shall be employ'd during this Suspension of Arms to secure their Settlements & present Possessions they may be transported freely, & without any difficulty from one place to another at the pleasure of the Governours, Generals, Commanders &c^a. of each Nation & all Persons actually under the Protection of either Flag may in like manner go & come where they think proper without being disturb'd either in their Effects or Persons.

8th. There shall be a free Commerce throughout the Karnateck & in all the Countries to the Northw^d. on the Choromandel Coast for the two contracting Nations, they may bring Goods from all the Places in the Dependancies of either Nation or their Allies, & transport them freely & without any Duty whatever through the Respective Territories & Jagueers.

9th. As soon as the Suspension is proclaim'd the mutual Exchange of Prisoners shall be set about, & the necessary Measures taken in an amicable manner, to soften the fate of those, that shall remain, by putting them together into Places where they may feel less of the Rigour of a long Captivity.

Sign'd in the English Copy Thos. Saunders in the French Copy Godeheu.

Sent the following Letters to Col^l. Adlercron & Lieut. Col^l. Lawrence of this Date.

To Colonel John Adlercron Commander in Chief of all
His Majesty's Land Forces in the East Indies.

Sir

In our Letter of the 9th. we advis'd you that there had been some Advances for a Suspension of Arms between the English & french Nations; Articles being since agreed on We have now the Pleasure to acquaint you that a Suspension is concluded

[29TH.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 29TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

for three Months to begin the 11th. October, We shall be glad Sir if in this Time we could concur in any Measures for settling the Troubles in this Country, if not, it will at least give us Leisure to concert together a proper Plan for our Operations when Hostilities are to commence again.

We have the Honour to be Sir your most Obedient Humble Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS.—HENY. POWNEY.—ROBT. ORME.—ALEXR. WYNCH.—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
29th. Septr. 1754.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

No. 2.

Articles being mutually sign'd & exchang'd for a Suspension of Arms between the English & french Nations in the Karnateck, for three Months to begin from the 11th. October, which Articles you will see at length in Mr. Godeheu's Letter to the President dated the 10th. Instant of which a Copy has been sent you, you are, to publish the Same at the Head of all your Troops on the same Day that the commanding Officer of the French shall publish it also on his Side, & pay the strictest Regard to it.

You will please likewise to acquaint the Nabob & the King of Tanjore & enjoin them not to infringe it.

For the Encouragement of Trade in the Province We have exchang'd twenty Dustuchs, sign'd on our Side by the President & on the Side of the French by Mr. Godeheu, which are to be a free Passport for any Goods going or coming to or from any part of the Country; please to order all your Troops to pay due Obedience to them & desire the Nabob & the King of Tanjore to give the same Directions to theirs. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS.—HENY. POWNEY.—ROBT. ORME.—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
29th. Septr. 1754.

30TH.

Sail'd his Majesty's Ship Bridgewater Captn. William Martin with Captn. Speke Passenger who carried the following Letter from the President for Rear Admiral Watson dated yesterday.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE & COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS BRITANNICK MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

I receiv'd the Honour of your Letter of the 24th. by the hands of Captn. Speke who having been fully inform'd of the State of Affairs, & of my Sentiments will be able to give you a more distinct Idea of them than it would be possible to do by Letter.

Give me leave to assure you Sir that I am perfectly sensible of your Zeal for the Service & your Endeavours to promote the Interest of the Company; In that Confidence I wrote you the 21st Instant what where [*sic*] my Sentiments on the Disposition of his Majesty's Squadron under your Command during the Winter Season Captn. Speke who is perfectly acquainted with all the Ports In India is best able to Point out which are the most convenient in Case my Proposal should meet with your Concurrence as I am persuaded every one will [*sic*] that you think for the good of the Service & consistent at the same time with the safety of his Majesty's Ships.

We have acceded to a Suspension of Arms for three Months to commence from the 11th. October & I wish means may be found in that Time to settle our Disputes

[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 29TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*——

to the Honour of the Nation & the Security of the Company, but from what has pass'd I am rather inclin'd to believe that no Accomodation will take Place, therefore as both Parties will be prepar'd at the Expiration of the Suspension the Scene of Action will probably again commence, the Success of which will greatly influence Affairs; We must therefore then use our strongest Efforts, & any Assistance that you can render us at that Season in whatever manner you shall find consistent with the Security of the Squadron, will be particularly serviceable to the Company's Interest I have the Honr. to be Sir Your most Obedt. & most humble Servant.

Fort St. George
29th. Septr. 1754.

THOS. SAUNDERS.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBT. ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

MONDAY THE 30TH. General Letter from Lieut. Colonel Lawrence of the 23rd. Instant read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

No. 69. I have been favour'd with your Letter of the 4th. Instant No. 24, & of the 12th. No. 25 with Copies of Mr. Godeheu's to the President, I am not surpris'd at his declining a suspension, after receiving such extraordinary Reinforcements from Europe, I doubt not on hearing of the Arrival of the King's Fleet & Troops his Sentiments will be much alter'd.

Captn. Polier wrote me a Letter of much the same tenour, as that you mention, I answer'd, my own Opinion was, that the Recruits ought to be equally divided among the 3 Swiss Company's in Proportion to the Strength of each, that undoubtedly the President & Council were fully acquainted with the intentions of the Honble Court of Directors, & would give Orders accordingly.

I much approve of your Design in giving such encouragement to the German Deserters, it is difficult at present to give proper Notice of it to those arriv'd at Cheringham, as soon as a good Opportunity offers, will make it publick.

It will certainly be very necessary to raise a good Body of Seapoys, who may be ready to take the Field with the Kings Troops, whenever the Service requires it, & if any Officers can be spar'd from the Settlements, who can be of use to them they should be sent.

Captn. Beaver agreeable to your Directions is appointed to the Command of [*sic*] late Captn. Pigou's Company

The King's Commission address'd to me, I desire may not be transmitted to Camp, but would be glad to know the Date of it.

By so often repeating Your desires of my Care for Trichinopoly, makes me apprehend you imagine there is some neglect in that part of my Conduct, I do assure you I have paid all possible attention to that important Fortress & have omitted no one opportunity of throwing in all the necessary Supplies & Stores I could procure, I still continue the same Assiduity, but in a Country almost depopulated it is with

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 30TH. SEPTEMBER 1754.*—— [30th.]

great Difficulty & Delays, that such extraordinary Supplies as are absolutely necessary can be sent in, my Situation at present having render'd the Communication to all the Neighbouring Countrys entirely open, makes me hope I shall soon be able to effect, what I have so long desir'd.

I have enclos'd you a Copy of a Commission, which if you approve of I should be glad was transmitted to me, to be given the Nelloor Subadar; I do assure you his Behaviour on all occasions, & Zeal for the Honourable Company's Service, entitles him to this particular Mark of your Approbation & Favour. I am Honble Sir & Sirs with great Esteem Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Woriore Camp
23d. Septr. 1754. STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Lieut. Coll. Lawrence concurring in our Opinion that it will be necessary a Body of Seapoys should be in readiness to accompany the Kings Troops, It is Agreed that one Thousand be rais'd as soon as possible in order that they may be disciplin'd in Time, & as much better Men are to be met with about Trichinopoly & Tanjour than in our Neighbourhood it is resolv'd to write to Coll. Lawrence to enlist as Many as he can that way & send them in to Fort St. David during the Suspension.

Order'd that the Commission recommended by Colonel Lawrence to be given to the Nellore Subadar be prepar'd accordingly.

The Commissary having examin'd Mr. Fraser's Account of Expences reports to the Committee that there is an Article of 200 Rupees for Pallanquin hire which is a very uncustomary Charge. Agreed that Coll. Lawrence be desir'd to require Mr. Frasier to reimburse that Sum to the Company and acquainted that We think no detach'd Parties should be allow'd more than their Ordinary Batta except upon Occasions of extraordinary Fatigue or Danger.

Captain Howes writes from Arcot that the Party of French which besieg'd & took Utremaloor march'd first to Wandewash & from thence to Gingee leaving twenty five Europeans & two hundred Seapoys in Wandewash.

Among the Country Correspondence receiv'd since last meeting are

Letters from Abdul Bob Cawn advising of the approach of Morarow's Army & requesting Troops & Stores for the Defence of the Country in Answer to which the President is desir'd to write him that our Troops would not prevent the Incursions of the Moratta's wherefore he had better only represent to Morarow that as he is in Alliance with the Circar he should return quietly to his own Country according to his Agreement.

A Letter from Murtaz Ally Cawn Phousdar of Veloor also requesting Assistance against Morarow; agreed that an Answer of the same Nature as the above be sent him with the Letter of Indulgence formerly requested by him.

A Letter from Morarow containing many Professions of Friendship for the English & the Nabob, desiring a Present may be sent him with Men and Stores Agreed that an Answer be wrote him in the most friendly Terms excusing ourselves however from complying with his Request at this Time & reminding him of his Alliance

All which are enter'd in the Book of Country Correspondence.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

[1st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 1ST. OCTOBER 1754.*——

Sent the following General Letter to Col^{l}. Lawrence agreeable to yesterday's Resolution.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^{R}. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

We have receiv'd your favour of the 23^{d}. Septr. N°. 69 and now inclose you the Commission for the Nelloor Subidar which you will please to deliver him with Assurances that we have a proper Sense of his Zeal for the Service of the Company.

We have acceded to a Suspension for three Months from the 11th. Instant on the Terms specified in M^{r}. Godeheu's Letter of the 10th. September We wrote you of it the 29th. & lodg'd our Letter with M^{r}. Starke who is first to interchange the Ratifications & then to forward our Letter which is to be your Notice; you are therefore not to look upon this in that Light unless the french Commanding Officer should have receiv'd his.

This Suspension may be Serviceable in many Particulars. The french have a large Body of Men acting this way who have taken Utrimaloor & would probably have made a much greater Progress for all the Force We have here could not prudently be sent into the Field against them & there are so many Points previously to be settled with the King's Troops that there was no appearance of their acting. We have now time to adjust all our Differences.

With regard to your Army; the grand Object is the supplying Trichinopoly with Provisions, which may now be done without any Risque or Impediment—And here We must do you the Justice to assure you that the frequent Mention made of that Circumstance by no means proceeded from any Doubt of your Diligence; but the Importance of the Case naturally brought it often into our Thoughts as We had once so severely felt the want of it, & are convinc'd that when a Years Store is in that Place many Difficultys will be removed.

By the Suspension your Troops will be reliev'd from the Necessity of keeping the Field in the rainy Season; the Consequence of which must be very Destructive; & We therefore reccommend it to you to consider in time of a proper Place for Winter Quarters.

It may have a good Effect on the King of Mysore who will not much relish the paying inactive Troops for three Months, at the same Time that his grand Object is at least remov'd to a greater Distance.

We have not much Room to flatter ourselves that it will bring on a final Accomodation, but of this We shall be able to Judge with more Certainty when We see M^{r}. Godeheu's Answer to the President's last Letter on the Subject, Copies of both which shall then be sent you.

In the mean Time let us prepare to exert our utmost Efforts when Hostilities may be expected to commence again probably with more Vigour than ever on both Sides. We do not yet know where the Admiral intends to Winter but We have not fail'd to represent to him the Necessity of his being on the Coast again in January as his Assistance at that Time would be particularly Serviceable.

As you Concur in our Opinion regarding the Seapoys We have resolv'd to raise a Body of one Thousand as speedily as Possible that they may be disciplin'd in readiness to take the Field with the King's Troops; The People that can be enlisted this way or at Fort S^{t}. David are not to be depended on many of them having been menial Servants who never bore Arms in their Life—We are told that better are to be met with about Trichinopoly & Tanjore & therefore reccommend it to you to raise the above Number, or such part thereof as you can of good Men & you may send them into Fort S^{t}. David during the Suspension.

M^{r}. Frasers Account has been examin'd by the Commissary, & We cannot help looking upon his Charge of 200 Rupees for Pallanquin hire to be particularly

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 1ST. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [1ST.]

extravagant; We therefore expect that he will repay that Sum into the Hands of the Commissary on the Company's Account, The rest may be admitted for once but We are of opinion that no detach'd Parties should have more than the ordinary Diet of 4 fanams ℔ Day unless they be working Parties expos'd to extrardinary [*sic*] Danger or Fatigue.

As the Europe Ship draws near her Dispatch Lieut^t. Monchanin must be sent in immediately, if you think it best to put the Resolution specefied [*sic*] to You in the Letter from the President & Council of the 5th. August into Execution; However if you look upon him as a good Officer & think that such an Indulgence will not be hurtfull We have no Objection to his remaining in the Service—Your Determination therefore shall be final.

Morarow by our last Advices was raising Contributions & intended to march by the Way of Trinomely Araney & Veloor; The President has wrote to remind him that as he is in alliance with the Circar he must take Care that his People do not plunder the Country but you are sensible that Remonstrances of this Nature have very little Effect on Morattas; We expect constantly to hear of his ravages & wish he may at last retire to his Country.

Your Commission from the King came under a Seal'd Cover from the Court of Directors which upon the Receipt of your Letter We thought proper to open. There was Nothing in the Cover but the Commission which is Dated the 26th. February 1754. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants. THO^S. SAUNDERS—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEX^R. WYNCH—WILL^M. PERCEVAL.

Fort S^t. George
1st. October 1754.

Receiv'd a Letter from M^r. Godeheu to the President dated 30th. Septr. as enter'd N°. 34. 3.

Receiv'd another Letter from M^r. Godeheu to the President dated the 3^d. Instant as enter'd N°. 35. 6.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present MONDAY THE 7TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^R. GOV^R. PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Receiv'd the following General Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. dated the 4th. Instant with the Articles of the Suspension sign'd by M^r. Godeheu.

To the Hon̄ble Thomas Saunders Esq^R. President
& Governour &c^A. Council of Fort S^T. George.

Hon̄ble Sir & Sirs

Inclos'd are the Articles for a Suspension of Arms sign'd & seald by M^r. Godeheu. agreeable to the Directions contain'd in your Favour of the 29th. Ultimo I have deliver'd your Letter relative thereto to Col^l. Adlercron. dispatch'd that to Col^l. Lawrence & given strict Orders to the Chief of Deve Cotah to observe the same I am with Respect Hon̄ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient Humble Servant.

Fort S^t. David,
4th October 1754. RICH^D. STARKE.

Order'd that the Articles of the Suspension as sign'd by M^r. Godeheu be enterd with a Translation after these Minutes — The President is desir'd to advise Captn.

[1st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 1ST. OCTOBER 1754.*——

Howes at Arcot & Captn. Gaupp at Changalapet of the Suspension & it is agreed that a Letter be immediately dispatch'd to Mr. Starke to direct him to publish it at Fort St. David on the Day stipulated.

Order'd likewise that three Copies of the Articles be prepar'd, one to be sent to Admiral Watson one to Colonel Adlercron & one to Mr. Starke & that Coll. Adlercron be desir'd to publish it at the Head of his Majesty's Troops.

There being several french Deserters at Fort St. David whose Service as We have frequently experienced is by no Means to be depended on & whose Intentions on the Contrary have generally prov'd to be only to seduce our Men — Agreed that the Admiral be desir'd in Case he proceeds to Bombay to take them on Board and deliver them at that Place which will put it out of their Power to return to the French.

It being stipulated by the ninth Article of the Suspension that the Exchange of Prisoners shall be set about as soon as Possible, & Mr. Godeheu objecting in his Letter of the 30th. September to the Method propos'd in the President's to him of the 22d. vizt. "that he should first send English to Fort St. David" saying that we should advance equally; Agreed that it be now wrote him that if he will acquaint us what Number of English he has, & fix a Day for their Departure for Fort St. David, the same Number of French shall set out on the same Day to Pondicherry, & also that as the Moratta's are plundering in the Neighbourhood of Trinomely & may possibly come nearer this way we may be oblig'd to send out a Party to secure our Possession, which Notice we give him that he may be in no Doubt concerning their Destination.

Messrs. Robert Orme, Alexander Wynch & William Percival are appointed a Committee for letting out the Covelon, Changalapet & Manamangalum Countries in concurrence with the Nabob's Vackeel with whom they are to settle the Rents.

Captn. Howes writes from Arcot that the Moratta Horse are plundering the Villages near Arnee, that 250 French left Gingee giving out they were returning to Pondicherry, & that he hears there is a large Detachment of French at Waldour design'd for this Country; that they have left only 300 Seapoys in Wandiwash & the usual Garrison in Gingee.

Captn. Gaupp at Changalapet advises that Morarow was encamp'd near Trinomely & sent out Parties to plunder as well the french Bounds as the Nabob's.

The Country Letters now read are

Several from Abdul Bob Cawn advising the Ravages committed by the Morattas, & one from Morarow containing seven Articles which he desires may be sign'd by the President in order to encrease our Friendship.

These Articles (enter'd in the Country Correspondence No.—) being of a Nature to give him a Plea very frequently to request Supplies of Men & Stores from us; The President is desir'd to wave the signing them, & to decline sending him any Assistance at present on Account of the rainy Season assuring him at the same Time of our firm Friendship, & acquainting him with the Suspension of Arms.

Agreed that the Nabob, the King of Tanjore & the Killedar of Chettapet be also immediately advis'd of the Suspension, & desir'd to give the necessary Orders to all the Killedars &ca. under them for the Observance of it.

Major Heron proposing to go to Fort St. David on the Warren who [*sic*] will Sail in a Day or two, in order to proceed to Camp; Order'd that Instructions be got ready to be deliver'd him along with the Letter already prepar'd for Lieutt.-Coll. Lawrence.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
HENRY. POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 7TH. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [7TH.]

ARTICLES, et Conventions arretées entre nous Charles Robert Godeheu Ecuyer, Commissaire du Roy, Commandant Général de tous les Etablissements Francois sur la Côte d' Affrique, au dela du Cap de bonne Esperance, et meme a la chine, president de tous les Conseils y Etablis, et Directeur General de la Compagnie des Indes, et Thomas Saunders, Ecuyer Commissaire et Commandant général pour L'Honorable Compagnie d' angletterre [*sic*] a la Côte Coromandee, Gouverneur du Fort S^t. George pour parvenir par un arrangement Solide, et durable a faire finir les Troubles qui regnent a cette Côte, et dans le Karnatte depuis plusieurs Années, sommes Convenus entre Nous d'une Suspension d'Armes reciproque pour Nous, et nos Alliés aux Conditions Suivantes.

Premierement

A Compter du onzieme Octobre jour auquel la Suspension D'armes pourra etre publiée dans toutes les Troupes Forts, et Possessions actuelles des deux nations Contractantes dans le Karnatte tout Acte d'hostilité Cessera entre les Francois, et les Anglois.

2°.

Pendant la Durée de cette Suspension qui sera de trois Mois leur Trouppes N'agiront les unes contre les autres non seulement comēs Parties principalles, mais meme commes Auxiliaires.

3°.

Les deux Nations forceront leurs Alliés a entrer dans le meme accord.

4°.

Si aucune de deux Nations, Francois, ou Anglois commetont quelque Acte d'Hostilité, S' Emparoit de quelque Place, ou que l'une causât quelque Dommage a l'autre aprés le Jour de la publication de la dite Suspension, toutes les deux s'obligent a des Reparations proportionneés au Dommage et a l'entiere restitution de ce qui aura ete pris.

5°.

Si les alliés ou autres Troupes a la Solde de l'une ou l'autre Nation commettant quelque Acte d'hostilité ou Exertent des Pillages sur les Terres dont l'une et l'autre Nation sont en Possession actuellement il sera libre a l'une et a l'autre de repousser l'insulte par la Force sans que pour cela la Nation offensée puisse etre reputée avoir Contrevenu au present accord.

6°.

Si les Alliés ou troupes auxiliaires de l'une ou de l'autre Nation prenoient les Armes, ou insultoient les Pays dont la Nation avec laquelle ils seroient liés est actuellement en Possession, les deux Nations Sepreteront [*sic*] en le cas Secours et assistance pour S'opposer a cet Ennemy qui deviendroit alors commun a toutes les deux.

7°.

Les Troupes des deux Nations seront Employées pendant cette Suspension d'armes a la garde de leurs Etablissements, et Possessions presentes, elles pourront etre transferées sans nulle Difficulté, et librement d'un Endroit dans un autre suivant la volonté des gouverneurs généraux, Commandants &c^a. de chaque nation et toutes personnes actuellement sous la Protection de l'un et l'autre Pavillon pourront Egalement aller et venir ou bon leur semblera sans etre inquietés ny en leurs biens ny en leurs personnes.

[7TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 7TH. OCTOBER 1754.*——

8°.

Le Commerce sera libre dans tout le Carnatte, et dans tous les Païs du Nord de la Cote Coromandel pour les deux Nations contractantes, elles pourront tirer des Marchandises de tous les Endroits dependants de l'a[*sic*]ne ou de l'autre, ou de leurs Alliés, et les faire transporter librement sans aucune retribution quelconque au travers des Terres et Jaguirs respectifs.

9°.

Aussitot aprés la Suspension proclamée ou [*sic*] travaillera a l'Echange mutuel des Prisonniers, et on prendra a l'amiable les Mesures nécéssaires pour adoucir le sort de Ceux qui resteront, en les reunissant dans les Endroits ou ils puissent moins ressentir les Rigureurs d'une longue Captivité.

10°. & d^er.

Que Mr. Saunders, et Moy nous nous remettrons reciproquement un Original des Presentes dans notre Langue respective pour la Sureté reciproque, et Servir et Valloir Ce que de raison : Fait et passé a Pondicherry le Quatrieme Octobre mil sept cent cinquante quatre.

L. S.

GODEHEU.

Articles and Agreements concluded between us Charles Robert Godeheu Esqr. Commissary for the King, Commander General of all the French Establishments on the Coast of Africa on the other side of the Cape of Good Hope, and also at China ; President of all the Councils there Establish'd, and Director General of the India Company & Thomas Saunders Esqr. Commissary & Commander General for the Honble Company of England on the Coast of Choromandel, Governour of Fort S^t. George–In order to arrive at a Solid & lasting Accomodation & to put an End to the Troubles which have subsisted on this Coast & in the Carnateck for several Years We have agreed upon a reciprocal Suspension of Arms for us & our Allies on the following Conditions.

First

To begin from the 11th. October the Day on which the Suspension of Arms shall be publish'd in all the Forts & actual Possessions of the two contracting Nations in the Carnateck, all Acts of Hostility shall cease between the French & the English.

2^d.

During the Course of this Suspension, which shall be for three Months, their Troops shall not act against each other, not only as Principals, but even as Auxiliaries.

3^d.

The two Nations shall oblige their Allies to enter into the same Agreement.

4th.

If either of the two Nations French or English shall commit any Act of Hostility, possess themselves of any Place, or either Occasion any Damage to the other after the Day of the Publication of the said Suspension, both oblige themselves to make reparation proportionable to the Damage, & to the entire Restitution of whatever shall be taken.

5th.

If the Allies or other Troops in the Pay of either Nation shall commit any Act of Hostility, or plunder the Territories of which either Nation is now in Possession, it shall be lawful for both Nations to repulse their Insults by Force by which the injur'd Nation shall not be deem'd to have infring'd the present Agreement.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 7TH. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [7TH.]

6th.

If the Allies or Auxiliary Troops of either Nation shall take Arms or insult the Countries of which the Nation they may be allied to is now in Possession, the two Nations shall succour each other in this Case to oppose this Enemy who shall become thereby a common Enemy to both.

7th.

The Troops of the two Nations shall be employ'd during this Suspension of Arms to secure their Settlements & present Possessions; They may be transported freely & without any Difficulty from one Place to another at the Pleasure of the Governours, Generals, Commanders &c^{a}., of each Nation & all Persons actually under the Protection of either Flag may in like manner go wherever they think proper without being disturb'd either in their Effects or Persons.

8th.

There shall be a free Commerce throughout the Karnateck & in all the Countries to the Northward on the Choromandel Coast for the two contracting Nations; they may bring Goods from all the Places in the Dependences of either Nation or their Allies & transport them freely & without any Duty whatever through the respective Territories & Jagueers.

9th.

As soon as the Suspension is proclaim'd the mutual Exchange of Prisoners shall be set about, & the necessary Measures taken in an amicable manner to soften the Fate of those that shall remain, by putting them together into Places where they may feel less of the Rigour of a long Captivity.

10th.

That Mr. Saunders & I shall transmit to each other an Original of this Act in our Respective Language, for our reciprocal Security, & to serve & have Effect according to it's Intent–Done at Pondicherry the 4th. of October One Thousand seven hundred & fifty four. L. S.

GODEHEU.

Sent the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr. agreeable to our Resolution this Day.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQ^{R}.

Sir

We receiv'd yours of the 4th. with the Articles of the Suspension sign'd by M^{r}. Godeheu; You must therefore cause the same to be publickly proclaim'd on the 11th. Instant at the Head of the Garrisons of Fort St. David & Deve Cotah & of all Parties that may be abroad under your Orders. We shall send you a Copy of the Articles tomorrow & you must take care that they are strictly observ'd.

You will please to address all your Advices respecting Country Affairs & Military Operations to the Committee for conducting Country Affairs.

It is in that Quality we write to you. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THO^{S}. SAUNDERS—HEN^{Y}. POWNEY—ROB^{T}. ORME—ALEX^{R}. WYNCH—WILL^{M}. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
7th. October 1754.

[8TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 8TH. OCTOBER 1754.*——

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu dated this Day Entd. in the French Correspondence No. 36.

Sent the following Letters to Admiral Watson Coll. Adlercron & Richard Starke Esqr. with a Copy of the Articles of the Suspension inclos'd in each.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE
& COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS BRITANNICK MAJESTY'S
SQUADRON IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

You have already been advis'd of the Conclusion of a Suspension of Arms for three Months it commences the 11th. Instant: Yesterday we receiv'd the Articles, sign'd by Mr Godeheu the french Commander General at Pondicherry & we have now the Honour to inclose you a Copy of them for your more particular Information.

At Fort St. David are several french Deserters if you could oblige us in carrying them to Bombay it would save us expence & Trouble. We are Sir Your most obedient humble Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
8th. October 1754.

To COLL. JOHN ADLERCRON COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF
HIS MAJESTY'S LAND FORCES IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

Having receiv'd the Articles for the Suspension of Arms sign'd by the French Commander General at Pondicherry we have the Honour to inclose you a Copy & to acquaint you that in Consequence of the first Article we have order'd Mr. Starke to proclaim it publickly at Fort St. David on the 11th Instant and We request that you will cause the same to be done at the Head of his Majesty's Troops under your Command. We are Sir Your most obedient humble Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
8th. October 1754.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.

Sir

Agreeable to what we wrote you last Night we now transmit you a Copy of the Articles of the Suspension. Please to send the inclos'd to Col. Adlercron or in case of his Absence to the Commanding Officer of his Majesty's Troops on the Spot with all possible Expedition as it is to desire him to publish the Suspension at the Head of his Majesty's Forces at the same time that you do it in the Company's Garrison.

Should it be convenient to Admiral Watson to carry the French Deserters to Bombay by all means embrace the opportunity We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
8th. October 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 8TH. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [8TH.]

Deliver'd Major Heron his Instructions & a Letter to Lieut^{t}. Col^{l}. Lawrence as follow.

To ALEXANDER HERON ESQ^{R}. MAJOR OF THE HONBLE COMPANY'S FORCES ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL

Sir

Col^{l}. Lawrence being in a very uncertain State of Health we think it necessary that you proceed to Camp as soon as possible to succeed him in the Command of the Army.

Articles for a Suspension of Arms for 3 Months from the 11th Instant being sign'd & concluded Copy of which Articles is inclos'd for your Information the principal Object to be regarded during that Time is the supplying of Trichinopoly with Provisions, there should be at least a twelve Month's Store always in the Place.

We are in Alliance with Nabob Anaverde Cawn Bahader and the King of Tanjore you are therefore to consult with them on all Occasions & carefully to preserve the Friendship between us. Col^{l}. Lawrence We imagine will stay in Camp some time after your Arrival if his Health will permit & from him you will get the best information of the strength & Situation of the Enemy & of the means of supplying Trichinopoly with Provisions of which Circumstances we cannot be perfect Judges.

Herewith are Letters for the Nabob, the King of Tanjore & Col^{l}. Lawrence which you will deliver on your Arrival and please to address all your Advices regarding Military Operations or the Concerns of any of the Country Powers: To the Committee for conducting Country Affairs. We wish you Health & Success & are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THO^{S}. SAUNDERS—HEN^{Y}. POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEX^{R}. WYNCH—WILL^{M}. PERCEVAL.

Fort S^{t}. George
8th. October 1754

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^{R}. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN THE EAST INDIES. No. 4.

Sir

Major Heron now proceeds to Camp to succeed you in the Command in case of Necessity but We hope he will first Act for some time under your Orders, during which you will please to give him as much Light as Possible into the State of Affairs & more particularly such Information as you think will be of Service to him in the Command of the Army. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants THO^{S}. SAUNDERS—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEX^{R}. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCIVAL.

Fort S^{t}. George
5th. October 1754.

Arriv'd his Majesty's Ship Bridgewater Cap^{tn}. Martin & Kings Fisher Sloop Captn. Mihell By Cap^{tn}. Martin the President receiv'd the following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson. 11

To THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}. &C^{A}.

Sir

I have the favour of your Letter of the 29th. September by Captn. Speke, by which I observe that Notwithstanding both Parties have acceeded to a Suspension of Arms for three Months to commence the 11th. Instant, that there appears no probability of a Peace being concluded, but on the contrary you imagine that both Armies will then take the Field again.

[8TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 8TH. OCTOBER 1754.*——

I very readily concur with you in thinking our Affairs will be greatly influenc'd by the Success of our first Action, therefore no doubt it will be absolutely Necessary to collect all our Forces together before any attempt is made against the Enemy, & I heartily wish it may be in my Power to facilitate the Plan of operation which may be then undertaken, & hope I shall return from Bombay (where I am order'd to go at the breaking up of the Monsoon) time enough to execute any thing which can be expected from the Squadron under my Command, which in all probability will be then augmented by one or two of his Majesty's Ships.

The twenty Gun Ship & Sloop I shall send to Bengall, from whence they will return on the Coast as soon as they are clean'd, with Orders to assist you as far as they can with safety to his Majesty's Ships, therefore whatever Service you would have them employ'd on you will communicate your design to Captn. Martin for that purpose.

I can only add my sincere desire to render you all the Service in my Power, & as my returning in due Season appears to be the most essential Point you may depend all my attention shall be applied to compass it. I am with great Regard Sir Your most Obedient Servt CHAS. WATSON.

Fort St. David
7th. October 1754.

13TH. In Consequence of Admiral Watson's Information the following Letter was wrote & deliver'd to Captn. Martin.

To WILLM. MARTIN ESQR.
COMMR. OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP BRIDGEWATER.

Sir

Admiral Watson having inform'd us that he is going to Bombay with his Majesty's Ships Kent & Salisbury, & that you are to proceed to Bengal with the Bridgewater & King's Fisher Sloop, we think proper to acquaint you Sir that although there is a Suspension of Arms concluded for three Months we have no great Reason to flatter ourselves that an Accomodation will be brought about; on the Contrary we imagine that at the Expiration of the Suspension (the 11th Day of January) Hostilities will reccommence with more Vigour than ever Your Presence on the Coast at that Time may be usefull to the Service We therefore beg the Favour that you will return as soon as the Security of his Majesty's Ships & the Business you are upon will permit. We are Sir Your most Obedient humble Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Receiv'd from Captn. Martin the following Answer to our Letter.

To THE GOVERNOUR & COUNCIL AT MADRASS

Gentlemen

Your Letter of the 13th. Instant I have receiv'd in which you request my Return to this Coast as soon as the Security of his Majesty's Ships & the Business I am upon will permit, my Orders from Admiral Watson are (as I acquainted Mr. Saunders on my Arrival) to return to this Coast as soon as possible, I shall be always ready to execute to the utmost of my Power, any Request that I may receive from the Governour & Council, so long as they are not repugnant to my Orders from my Commanding Officer. I am Gentlemen Your very humble Servant WM. MARTIN.

Bridgwater [*sic*] in Madrass Road
13th. October 1754.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. OCTOBER 1754.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

TUESDAY THE 15TH.

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

No. 70.

The following Letters receiv'd from Lieutt. Coll. Lawrence are now read.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 18th. Instant with the Articles of War, I now enclose Copys of the proceedings of all the Courts Martial, that have been held by the Officers under my Command attested by the Judge Advocate; that of the 26th. as the Sentence was not put in Execution, I have suspended it till I hear farther from you, This being a Thing of the utmost consequence, no time ought to be lost in applying for proper Powers, which I hope you will transmit me as soon as Possible.

My Situation is exactly the same except a Captain's Detachment with 2 Guns which I found necessary to reinforce that at Coiladdy to cover more Effectually the Workmen who are repairing the Bank near that Place, I am inform'd a few Days will compleat it.

My attention for some time has principally turn'd towards Trichinopoly, I have been oblig'd to repair a Water Course, which the Enemy had broke down in many Places, some near 20 Miles up the Country, it is by this Conveyance only the Tanks & Ditch of the Town can be filled, this was absolutely necessary to be effected, as well for the Security as Health of the Garrison. The Quantitys of Grain & other Necessary's already lodg'd there are pretty Considerable, A Magazeen of Firewood is erecting, I hope in a little Time a necessary Supply will be got together.

The Enemy continue the same Disposition on the other Side the River, I am well inform'd a considerable Detachment of Europeans from Pondicherry join'd them the 28th. Instant.

There is one Lieutenant Seileir of Captn. Zeigliers [*sic*] Company who stays at Madrass, I am told his inability to take the Field in a great Measure proceeds from a continued Scene of Drunkenness The Officers of that Company have agreed to make up a small Purse to defray his Expences home, if he does not chuse to go on the Terms they propose, I desire his Conduct may be enquir'd into by a Court Martial, he has not done any Duty for some Months past.

As no one can be in greater want of change of Air, for the reestablishing of Health than Myself, I could have wish'd Coll. Heron had been more expeditious in his Preparations for the Field, if he does not very soon arrive, it will be impossible for me to reap the Benefit, I flatter'd Myself I should receive from his being sent up, The Monsoon is near, & the usual bad Weather that attends it, will prevent my getting down after it once breaks You may remember I took the Field two Days after my Arrival, & even offer'd it the very same Day. It will give me pleasure to be frequently Honour'd with your Commands. I am Honble Sir & Sirs with great Esteem Your most Obedient Humble Servant S. LAWRENCE.

Woriore Camp
30th. Septr. 1754

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favour of the 25th. Septr. with the inclos'd Papers from & to Mr. Godeheu. No. 1.

[15TH.] ——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. OCTOBER 1754.* ———

All the Steps you have taken yet, seem to me to be very Consistant with Prudence, & your usual Care of the Honble Company's Interest. As I intend immediately on Col[l]. Heron's Arrival to go down, I shall be able by assisting at the Committee, to form my Opinion by the help of yours.

You need not be Uneasy at my leaving Col[l]. Heron too soon, before I can give him a proper Insight into the Affairs relating to the Army. Besides Major Kilpatrick who Stays, will be always at hand to assist him with his Advice, And you know his Experience & Capacity is very sufficient to make you easy on that head. The Monsoon coming on will make me to be sure more anxious about going down immediately to avoid it; For my Health begins again to fail me, & the bad Weather has but too much effect on it.

As you have agreed to the Articles of Suspension, I expect every Day to hear they are sign'd.

You Judge very right Gentlemen as to more Troops. There is at present no need of them, unless the Enemy reinforce. , I am strong enough here to keep open the Communication, & should they cross to cope with them: But I believe the advanc'd Season will prevent that.

Your Dispositition [*sic*] of Prisoners is also very proper, & if those here can be remov'd it will be a great Use to the Place.

M[r]. Maunsel's Health has had again a Turn so much in his Favour, that he will be very able to stay & act as usual. This the Surgeons are also of opinion. He has wrote to M[r]. Bourchier to prevent his further Trouble. As I suppose you are willing he should stay since he is able; and indeed his Care & Assiduity is much to be commend [*sic*] & makes him worthy of the Trust reposed in him.

I presume you have forgot Lieut[t]. Monchanin's Affair as you said you would order him down in September I fear now it is too late for this next Dispatch.

I omitted informing you that as to the Courts Martial which were sent down; tho the Sentence of most was for Death, two were but executed S[t]. Julian & Joseph Scritz both old Offenders who had deserted twice or thrice.

I beg you'l be so good as to send the Commission for Mahomed Isouf as soon as convenient.

Just now the Nabob has receiv'd very friendly Letters from Salabad Jing assuring him he will confirm him Nabob of the Carnateck; & also has sent a Letter to the Dolloway with Orders to repair home & not any longer to disturb, or be an Enemy to the Nabob. He will send you Copies of the Letters. I am Gentlemen Your most Obedient & most humble Servants [*sic*] S. LAWRENCE.

Woriore Camp
6th. October 1754.

Order'd that the Secretary do acquaint Lieut[t]. Sillier with the Proposal made by the Officers of Capt[n]. Zieglers Company & Report his Answer.

A Letter from Major Killpatrick as follows.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ[R]. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &C[A]. COUNCIL OF FORT S[T]. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have had the Honour of your two Letters of the 3[d]. & 25th. & herein enclose you my Garrison Accounts for last Month.

I thank you Gentlemen sincerely for the favour you intend me, & cannot sufficiently express Myself for the good Opinion you have been pleas'd to entertain of me in the Service. I beg you'l be assur'd my Endeavours shall always be to merit

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [15TH.]

it more & at the same Time proving on all Occasions the perfect Zeal, with which I have the Honour to remain Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient & most humble Servant JAMES KILPATRICK.

Trichinopoly
7th. October 1754.

Just now receiv'd the following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson.

TO THE GOVERNOUR & COUNCIL OF MADRASS &CA.

Gentlemen

I have this moment receiv'd your Favour of the 8th. Instant inclosing a Copy of the Articles of a Suspension of a Arms, but have not Time now to give you my Opinion of it, as I am getting under Sail

I wish I had known your Intentions of sending your French Prisoners to Bombay, sooner, as I would have been glad to have oblig'd you in that or any thing else in my Power, but it's too late, for I have already tresspass'd on the Time limited to me in my Orders, & as the Warren is design'd for Bombay I apprehend the Disappointment can't be very great, as she is capable of receiving them. I am, Gentlemen Your most obedient humble Servant CHARLES WATSON.

Kent in Fort St. David's Road
11th. October 1754.

A Ship now in the Road being bound for the Malabar Coast Order'd that a short Letter be prepar'd to go on her to the Admiral to acknowledge the Receipt of his two foregoing Letters & to thank him for his ready Concurrence in our Proposals.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr.

TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONDUCTING COUNTRY AFFAIRS

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Favours of the 7th. & 8th. Instant, the last inclosing a Letter for Coll. Adlercron & Copy of the Articles of the Suspension which agreeable to your Directions have this Day been publickly proclaim'd in this Garrison & will I doubt not at Deve Cotah also.

Upon Information that a Subadar of Seapoy's in the Company's Service was under Confinement at Cuddalore by Coll. Adlercron's Order I wrote him a Letter desiring he would send him to me that he might be tried by a Court Martial, the inclos'd is Copy of his Answer which I think it's proper you should be acquainted with.

Admiral Watson was embark'd before your Favour of the 8th. came to hand however I wrote to him to know if he would please to receive the french Deserters on board, he has return'd me no Answer but sent a Letter to the President & Council which is inclos'd as is also a Letter from Coll. Lawrence Seal'd. I am with Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most obedient humble Servant. RICHD: STARKE.

Fort St. David
11th. October 1754.

TO THE WORSHIPFULL RICHARD STARKE ESQR.

Sir

I yesterday desir'd Mr. White adjutant of the Fort to send Seapoy Officers (as I was inform'd the Custom was) to try a Seapoy confind by me; & receiv'd in Answer by your Orders, that you refus'd to have the Seapoy tried here, but if I would send him to Fort St. David he there should be tried, & punish'd according to the Nature of his Offence.

[15TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. OCTOBER 1754.*——

I order'd my Adjutant to acquaint Mr. White that I had order'd a Court Martial to be held here to try that Seapoy by my Authority.

I was surpris'd this Morning at a Letter that I receiv'd from you; for surely Sir you cannot be ignorant having seen my Orders, & Instructions given me by his Majesty, That in me is invested the Sole Authority to Order & appoint Courts Martial to try Offenders whether in his Majesty's Service, or those employ'd in that of the East India Company; & am certain where I am to be spoke with no Court Martial can be order'd, or appointed (consequently not executed) but by my Authority; & that all others are Arbitrary & Illegal: The Discipline & Aeconomy of His Majesty's Forces & those of the East India Company being lodg'd in me; I therefore am determin'd to try him here. I have the Honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant.

Cuddalore
11th. October 1754. (Sign'd) JOHN ADLERCRON.

P.S. I have complimented you with giving the Parole in the Fort, but can go no further in Military Proceedings.

As Lieut. Colonel Bagshaw is come from Fort St. David in order to settle the several Points in which Colonel Adlercron's Instructions differ from the Company's Directions to us; it is agreed to take no further Notice of the Affair of the Seapoy, & also to defer writing to Col. Adlercron on the Subject of the Powers for holding General Courts Martial untill our Conferences with Lieut. Col. Bagshaw are finishd.

Capt. Howes writes that he has receiv'd a friendly Letter from Morarow, whose Horse are nevertheless plundering all the Villages, that he shall punctually comply with the Presidents Directions not to send any Men out of the Fort & Capt. Gaupp advises in a Letter dated the 10th. that he shall publish the Suspension at Changalapet on the Day Stipulated & carefully conform to it.

Letters from Sanawasa Chery Renter & Kisnazee Punt Tasealdar at Tripoty advising that the former has transmitted Bills for Pagoda's Six Thousand (6000) and Arcot Rupees thirty Six Thousand (36,000) in part of the Kist for this Year & that the rest shall be speedily remitted. The Commissary acknowledges to have receiv'd the above Sums.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

MONDAY OCTOBER 14TH. The two following Consultations on the Subject of Col. Adlercron's Instructions are order'd to be enter'd in the proceedings of the Committee.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
CHALES BODDAM — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President lays before the Board the following Letter from Colonel Adlercron viz.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [15TH.]

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq^R.
President at Fort S^t. George.

Sir

Though the Letter I had the Pleasure to receive from the President & Council of Fort S^t. George of the 28th. September was not directed with the Title with which his Majesty has thought fit to Honour me or in the form it ought to have come, (as I can receive no proposal except from the General Council appointed by the Court of Directors) yet in order to do what lies in my Power to expedite Matters, & promote the Service, I have sent Lieut^t. Col^l. Bagshaw the Second in Command with as full Powers as at present appear to me necessary; The Danger of the Monsoons setting in & consequently that I might be detain'd at Fort S^t. George makes it in the Opinion of my Council of War too hazardous for the Service to go thither myself, as it is impossible to determine how long I may be detain'd from the Troops, & by a long detention I might incur his Majesty's Displeasure.

I must own Sir I was very much surpris'd to find by a Letter from the General Council of the 5th. September that a Suspension of Arms with the French was agreed on without my being acquainted therewith: I have desir'd my Lieut^t. Colonel to enquire the Reasons that occasion'd it, & why I was not consulted before it was accomplish'd; As I look on it as a Step of the utmost Consquence both to the Company's Interest & the Service in which I am employ'd. I have the Honour to be, Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Cuddalore
8th. Octo^r. 1754. J^no. Adlercron

The President acquaints the Board that he had discours'd with Lieutt. Col^l. Bagshaw on the Subject of Col^l. Adlercron's Letter that he strenuously insisted on a Complyance & desires to know the Resolution of the Board in that Respect.

The Consequences of a complyance, & those that may probably arise from a Refusal being of the utmost Importance to the Company, the Board are of opinion that the Affair should be discussed at a full Board when M^r. Pigot & Col^l. Lawrence are present & as they may be shortly expected it is Agreed to deferr the Consideration of it till then & that Lieut^t. Col^l. Bagshaw be acquainted with this Resolution.

Thos. Saunders.

Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
A^R. Wynch.
Will^M. Perceval.
John Smith.
Chas. Bourchier.

At a Consultation

Present

Thomas Saunders Esq^R.	Governour President.	Tuesday
Charles Boddam.	Henry Powney.	15th
Robert Orme.	Alexander Wynch.	October.
William Perceval.	John Smith.	
Charles Bourchier.		

The President acquaints the Board that the Resolution taken in Consultation yesterday having been communicated to Lieut^t. Col^l. Bagshaw he desired to meet the Council that he might lay before them the Purport of his Instructions from Col^l. Adlercron.

[15TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. OCTOBER 1754.*——

Lieutenant Col^{l}. Bagshaw being then introduc'd & complimented with a Seat at the President's Right Hand, read to the Board the following Letter or Paper which he then laid on the Table to be consider'd & afterwards insisting on Col^{l}. Adlercron's Right withdrew.

Lieut^{t}. Colonel Bagshaw [*sic*] letter being again read as follows.

Gentlemen The President & Governour of Fort S^{t}. George with its Dependancies The Council of Fort S^{t}. George, & the General Council appointed by the Court of Directors.

You requested Col^{l}. Adlercron to come over to Fort S^{t}. George. An Alteration in his Health & other Incidents prevented him; but willing to promote the Common Good, & to shew you all the Respect in his Power he has sent the next to him in Command; & I am to assure you, he is desirous to serve the East India Company, & that Harmony & Friendship should subsist between the King & Company's Troops; but is sorry to find the Royal Favour in sending him hither, & his good Intentions do not appear in that agreable Light he could wish; he fears his Authority is disputed, because his Orders are neglected & much Pains seem to be taken to deprive him of the Title the King has thought fit to Honour him with; which he could readily pass over if it only effected [*sic*] himself but the Company's Affairs must suffer when the Commander in Chief of their Troops is either slighted or his Orders disputed; he has therefore for the Honour of his Master the King of great Britain & for the Interest & Service of the East India Company, directed me as a Preliminary to all Proceedings to require of you Gentlemen

Whether you do acknowledge Col^{l}. Adlercron's Power & Authority over both the Kings & Company's Forces, & whether you will give him the Title his Majesty has thought fit to honour him with.

——Colonel in the King of great Britain's Service & Commander in Chief of the Troops of the English East India Company. And if the General Council will consult him in all their Deliberations as far as is directed by his Majesty's Instruction. I am with great Respect Gentlemen Your most obedient & faithful humble Servant SAMUEL BAGSHAW. LIEUT^{T}. COLONEL.

Fort S^{t}. George
15th. October 1754.

To the Honble the President & Council
& Genl^{l}. Council of Fort S^{t}. George.

The Board continue of the same Opinion they were Yesterday, & the Secretary is order'd to signify the same to Lieut^{t}. Col^{l}. Bagshaw by Letter, a Draught whereof is now settled, Copy whereof follows Viz^{t}.

To LIEUTENANT COL^{L}. SAMUEL BAGSHAW.

Sir

In Answer to the three Articles you laid before the President & Council this Day for their Determination namely.

1st. "Whether they do acknowledge Col^{l}. Adlercrons Power and Authority "over both the King's & Company's Forces.

2dly. "Whether they will give him the Title of Colonel in the King of great "Britains Service & Commander in Chief of the Troops of the English East India "Company.

And 3dly. "Whether the General Council will consult him in all their Deliberations as far as is directed by his Majesty's Instructions."

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [15TH.]

I am order'd to acquaint you that in regard to the first & second Articles the Board are of Opinion they are of such Consequence that the Subject ought to be discuss'd at a full Council, & as George Pigot Esqr. who is to succeed to the Government on Mr. Saunders's departure which will probably be soon, & Stringer Lawrence Esqr. who by the Company's Orders is to be consulted on all Military Affairs are both absent, but may be shortly expected here 'tis the Unanimous resolution to defer the discussion of that Point untill the arrival of those Gentlemen. & in regard to the third Article that the General Council appointed by the Court of Directors are very ready to consult Coll. Adlercron in all their Deliberations as far as is directed by his Majesty's Instructions. I am Sir Your most Obedient hble Servt.

JOSH. DUPRÉ, Secry.

THOS. SAUNDERS.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Fort St. George
15th. October 1754.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 13th. containing his Proposals for an Accomodation, as enter'd No. 37. in the French Correspondence. 17TH:

Sent the following Letter to Rear Admiral Watson agreeable to our Resolution the 15th. 18TH:

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE
& COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS BRITANNICK MAJESTY'S
SQUADRON IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

We receiv'd the two Letters you did us the Honour to write us from Fort St. David the 7th. & 11th. Instant, & are much obliged to you for your ready Concurrence in the Request We made you.

In Consequence of the Information you gave us, We wrote Captn. Martin our Sentiments on the State of Affairs & desir'd he would return hither from Bengal as soon as his Business would permit.

Nothing remarkable has occurr'd since you left the Coast. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—GEO: PIGOT—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
18th October 1754.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT. MONDAY THE 21ST.
GEORGE PIGOT HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXR. WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Two Letters from Lieutt. Coll. Lawrence read as follow.

[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 21ST. OCTOBER 1754.*——

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President & Govr. &c.a. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd both your Favours of the 29th. & 30th. September As to the one of the 29th. your Orders shall be punctually obey'd; The french Commandant has likewise receiv'd the same & we have mutually agreed to have the Cessation publish'd at the Head of our Respective Army's at eight o'Clock tomorrow Morning being the Eleventh. This Day we send over an Officer from each side to settle our Limits & prevent as much as in our Power lies the Occasion of any Disputes.

The Nabob is sending his orders to all the People concern'd & under him. to pay due Obedience to the Articles agreed on: & as to the King of Tanjore I propose sending down Captn. Caillaud to explain the Nature of the agreement to settle with him for Provisions, & whatever else may be necessary between us.

By your Letter of the 30th. I have receiv'd Copies of the King's Orders. And shall pay to them all the deference & attention that is due. as to the Part that relates particularly to Myself with regard to the Command when I go down I shall have the Honour to let you know my Determination thereon. I don't doubt your Endeavours to promote the Harmony necessary to be kept up amongst us; & I hope when We meet that all Points will easily be adjusted & to our mutual Satisfaction.

In particular to the Affair of returns on which you are pleas'd Gentlemen to ask my Opinion; Coll. Adlercron has an undoubted Right to them; & so much so had he even not the Title of Commander in chief: But as coming to our Assistance out of Politeness they should have been sent for it is proper for him to know every Thing relating to the State & number of your Troops. And so much did I think this necessary that before I saw the King's Orders The Coll. desir'd a Return from me which I sent immediately of the whole Army sign'd by me & Major Kilpatrick at my Desire also sent one of the Fort. for I could not suppose a Gentleman would ask for a Thing he had not a Title to; or even without that Right as I said before I thought it necessary to be done out of Civility & for his Instruction.

As to what you say relating to the Col's. Pretensions "*The consequences of a "complyance would not be very agreeable to us*:" If that is meant as relating to me you do me great Honour; But I can assure you nothing shall hinder my Efforts for the forwarding the publick Good thô at the same time I must do Myself Justice. But you may depend on it Gentlemen Coll. Adlercron will insist on his Right & see executed the trust & Command given him by the King but with so much Discretion that I am certain our acquiescing will not be hurt to the Service or the Honour of our Masters.

The Nabob has again receiv'd very friendly & kind Letters from Salabad Jing Copies of which shall be transmitted to you. I am Gentlemen Your most obedient & most humble Servant Stringer Lawrence.

Camp at Woriore.
10th. October 1754.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Govern.r &c.a. Council of Fort St: George.

I receiv'd your Favour of the 1st. October, & am oblig'd to you for the Date of my Commission.

As to raising the Body of Seapoy's you propose, it can be easily effected in this Country, but as at present We have but few Spare Arms at Camp, I shall deferr raising the whole Body, till I can get more Arms from the Settlemts., it will be very proper some of our old Seapoys, should be sent down to take the Field with the King's Troops, We can keep the new one's in their Room.

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, 21ST. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [21st.]

As you seem inclin'd to forgive Lieut^t. Monchanin's past conduct, in the presence of Major Kilpatrick I spoke to him to know if he continued in his former Resolution of laying down the Service he told me he did, on which I thought proper to order him down to Madrass to receive your farther Orders

My ill state of Health continuing or rather encreasing, I found it highly necessary to embrace this favourable opportunity, of trying change of Air, I purpose setting out to morrow, after calling on the King of Tanjore, & settling in the best manner possible our Affairs with him, I shall procceed to S^t. Davids where I shall be glad to be honour'd with your Commands.

The approbation you was pleas'd to express at Major Kilpatrick's past Conduct, has induc'd me to leave the Command of the Army, as well as the Garrison to him, for the present, & I make no doubt of his continuing to deserve your farther Favours.

Lieut^t. Fraser has repaid the 200 Rupees charged for Pallanquin hire into the hands of the Commissary. I am, with great Esteem Honble Sir & Sirs Your most obedient Humble Servant STRINGER LAWRENCE.

Worlore
13th. October 1754.

As only Lieut^t. Col^l. Lawrence's Presence is now wanting in order to determine on the Points in which the Orders of the Court of Directors appear to differ from his Majesty's Instructions to Col^l. Adlercron — Agreed that a short Letter be wrote him to acknowledge the Receipt of his & to desire he will proceed to Madrass as speedily as possible.

M^r. Godeheu's Proposals are now read, & taken into Consideration, in the Course of which the Projects & Remarks sent us by the Company were referr'd to— M^r. Godeheu's Articles are found to differ from the Project drawn at Paris in the following Particulars.

In the 2^d. Article he omits to stipulate that Bahour Fort shall be demolished.

In the 5th. he adds a Clause stipulating that the English shall abandon, Coringe, Bandarmalanka & Mallarum, & reserves to the French a Power of settling two new Factories to the Northward.

In the 6th. he stipulates an unlimited Power to the French to settle two new Factories on the Choromandel & Orixa Coasts.

However these Differences might very possibly be reconcileable by a Conference; but the 5th. Article by which he reserves to the French the Possession of all their Grants in the Decan Country, is so apparently & totally destructive to the Honour & Security of the English, that no Conference or Treaty can be thought of unless these unbounded Pretensions are previously reduc'd within the Limits of Equality; for the mutual Security of the two Companies, & the freedom of their Commerce, can only be maintained by a strict adherence to this reasonable Principle.

"That neither shall have the Power to oppress or "give umbrage to the other" For where such Superiority of Power is, Pleas are easily framd openly to exert it, or underhand Means found of using it.

But as it is difficult to Judge exactly how far these Pretensions of the French extend, & what particular Countries they Comprehend, they being partly founded on Grants, partly on Mortgages for certain Sums of Money. It is Agreed

That a short Letter be wrote to M^r. Godeheu on the Subject of this Article singly, desiring a particular Account of the Districts he pretends to, & giving him plainly to understand that no Accomodation can take Place untill he consents to confine himself to as narrow Bounds as the English, & it is Resolv'd to defer the further Consideration of his Proposals untill We receive his Answer on this Point.

[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 21ST. OCTOBER 1754.*——

If we perceive that they are resolv'd to support these Pretensions, & insist on possessing a Tract of Country, so Considerable both for its extent & its Situation (near the Capital of the Decan) The War must continue; & in this Case it is the Unanimous Opinion of the Committee that the likeliest way of reducing the French to reasonable Terms, is to put these very valuable Possessions in Danger, which may be done by closing with the King of Mysore & makeing him our Friend in this Country, after which we may detach a large part of our Troops to the Northward; and in order to get a footing there form a League & a Plan of Operation with Japhir Ally Cawn, now Mahomed Moheen Cawn, & Vizeram Rauze, the former of whom was Nabob of the four Provinces, & despos'd during the late Troubles by Means of the French, & the latter now Rents a Considerable Part of their Possessions but is very uneasy under their Yoke; & both of whom have frequently express'd their Desire to enter into an Alliance with the English. One grand Advantage of this Step would be the removing the War out of this Province where the Nabob would collect the greatest part of the Revenues, into a Country tributary to the French whereby our Finances would be encreas'd, & theirs reduc'd.

The Committee for letting out the Manamangalum, Covelon & Changalaput Countries now report that they are inform'd by the Nabob's Vakeel that the utmost offer'd for the first is 14000 Pagodas, for the Second 8000, & that no one will at any rate rent the last for one Year only, as some Months are already expir'd of the usual Time, in which the Grain should be set.

Order'd that the President & Council be desir'd to grant Cowles for Manamangalum & Covelong at the beforemention'd Rates; & that the Committee do make enquiry what Rent can be got for Changalaput on a Cowle for two Years, & report next meeting.

Letters from SanawasaChery Rehter, & Kisnazee Punt Tasealdar of Tripoty, advising of a further Remittance of Pagodas six Thousand (6000) & Arcot Rupees sixteen Thousand (16,000) on Acco^t. of the Kist & that the remaining part will be sent speedily. the Comissary acknowledges to have receiv'd the Bills.

A Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn read, mentioning that with regard to the Suspension there can be no Doubt except concerning Utrimaloor, Trevatore & Carongoly which the French have lately taken possession of; in Answer to which the President is desir'd to write him that neither those nor any other Districts are to be molested during the Suspension.

THO^S. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WYNCH.
WILL^M. PERCEVAL.

Sent the following Letter to Col^l. Lawrence, agreeable to Yesterday's Resolution.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQ^R. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

No. 5. We have receiv'd your Letters of the 30th. Ultimo, 6th., 10th. & 13th. Instant, as we may so soon expect you here 'tis needless to say more than that as we shall have the most perfect deference for his Majesty's Orders, at the same Time We must preserve our Duty to our Hoñble Masters; His Majesty's Intention was most graciously to assist the Company; The Interpretation put on his Instructions & the sense of our Directions differ—To reconcile them is our present Endeavour, & in this Sense you will look on what We wrote you without any Regard to Particulars; We think it necessary this should be debated in a full Council & have therefore deferr'd

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, 22D. OCTOBER 1754.*——— [22D.]

it till your Arrival which We hope will be soon. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants; THOMAS SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
22nd. October 1754.

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu on the Subject of yesterday's Resolution as enter'd No. 38.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 18th. Instant as enter'd No. 39.

The following Consultation is order'd to be enter'd in these Proceedings. 24.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present THURSDAY THE 24TH. OCTR.

THOMAS SAUNDERS Esqr. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT—CHARLES BODDAM—HENY. POWNEY
ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL
JOHN SMITH—CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The Proposals made by Vencatrow as enter'd in Consultn. the 13th. May having been communicated by him to the President only, it is judg'd proper that he should make them to the whole Board, that in Case of the Death or absence of the President there may be no room to deny any part of them. Vencatrow is therefore now introduced before the Board and Question'd in regard to the said Proposals, which he declares his Master the Mysore Dallaway is ready & willing to agree to. he also represents that his detention here has [put] him to great Expence as well as depriv'd of very honourable & profitable Employs in his Master's Service, & being thereby reduc'd to very necessitous Circumstances as his Master refuses to make him any Allowances whilst he remains here he submits it to the Consideration of the Board whether his Expences should not be born by them.

Agreed that his reasonable Expences be defrayed.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 23d. Instant as enter'd No. 40. 26.

The two Letters No. 39 & 40 lately receiv'd from Mr. Godeheu having been communicated to the Gentlemen of the Committee, an Answer was sent with their concurrence dated this Day as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 41.

This Evening arriv'd Coll. Lawrence from Camp.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 42. 29TH.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. OCTOBER 1754.*——

THURSDAY THE 31ST.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVR. PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXR. WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Mr. Godeheu in his Letter No. 42 replies in very general Terms on the Subject of their Northward Possessions, saying only that he means to reserve all such Districts as cannot be made appear to be prejudicial to the Trade of the English and concluding with a Remark that these Discussions are more fit for a Conference than a Correspondence where something is always left unadjusted on both Sides.

If Mr. Godeheu is really inclin'd to abide by the reasonable Maxim he has laid down, much Good might be hoped, for nothing is easier than to make it appear that any Possessions of the French in the Decan must be prejudicial to the Trade of the Settlements of every other European Nation to the Northward—All the Cloth is manufactur'd in the Inland Countries, all Goods imported from Europe or other Parts of India must be thither carried to be sold; Whatever Nation then has the Governmt: Inland must consequently have it in her Power to impose what Duties she pleases both on Imports & Exports, & in Case of War or Variance with any other Nation to put a total Stop to her Trade & render her Settlements a Burthen to her.

It may be imagin'd however that were all these Reasons to be urg'd in the strongest Manner to Mr. Godeheu in Reply to his Letter, he would still find some Means to evade any Positive Discovery of his Intentions, & so an endless Correspondence might be carried on to no Effect, the Point therefore now to be debated is Whether it is proper to open Conferences or not.

Mr. Godeheu may possibly have offers to make at a Conference which he does not care to expose in Writing; should he be inflexible, & the Congress end unhappily, some Advantage may still be drawn from it; it may gain us a knowledge of the particular Districts they claim, & how far they are inclin'd to give up; & that as little Time as possible may be lost, our Commissaries may endeavour to bring this Article of the Nor. ward Grants on the Carpet as early as Possible. It will besides give us a publick Opportunity of convincing the World on whose Side the Professions of a Love of Peace are most sincere. Whereupon it is agreed.

That Conferences be open'd at Sadrass between the 15th. & 20th. of next Month, that so there may be time to decide before the Suspension expires.

Order'd that Coll. Lawrence, Messrs. Orme and Perceval & the Rev. Mr. Robert Palk, Commissaries appointed by our Honble Masters & Mr. Vansittart as Secretary do hold themselves in readiness to set out accordingly, & that a Letter be dispatch'd to advise Mr. Godeheu of this our Resolution, & naming the several Gentlemen appointed on our Part.

Receiv'd the following Letters from Major Heron & Major Kilpatrick.

Gentlemen

I arriv'd here last Night, & propos'd setting out this Day, but find some Difficulty's in regard to Provisions, for the supply of Trichinopoly, which I'm determin'd (if possible) to remove before I leave this place. I hope I shall find a sufficient Quantity of Powder, Ball, Flints, Musket Cartridge, Paper & all Ordnance Stores, at Camp & if there should be any deficiency, I presume you'l think that it ought to be supplied without Loss of Time. As Colonel Lawrence will be with You before this, he'll be able to Judge what is wanted, so that some Days may be sav'd betwixt this & my sending you the Returns of the above Particulars from Camp.

——*FORT ST GEORGE, 31ST OCTOBER 1754.*—— [31st.]

My chief attention during the Cessation of Arms, will be to have a Sufficiency of the above in Store, that We may have Nothing to do, but to take the Field in the most advantagious Situation when the Cessation of Arms expires. I shall acquaint you with my Success in regard to Provisions, before I leave this Place; but would let no opportunity slip of acquainting you with what I'm about. I hope to be Honour'd with your Commands as often as possible, which shall be chearfully & punctually executed to the Power of Gentlemen, Your very humble & obedient Servant, ALEXR. HERON.

P.S. I shall do Myself the Honour to write to the Governour in a Day or two, but I'm much hurried now with Compliments which thô they have no meaning in them yet I'm oblig'd to receive.

The Nabob having receiv'd advice that the Pollygar of Addeloar has refus'd to pay the Tribute that is due for his Country is willing to use force to compel him but as this may give Occasion for the French to think we infringe on the Cessation of Arms I advis'd him to defer any Acts of Force till I had receiv'd Orders concerning that Affair & the rather as the above Polligar has sometimes sided with the French. ALEXR. HERON.

Tanjore
22d. Octor. 1754.

Gentlemen

Since mine of yesterday I think I can now give you Joy, that the Garrison of Trichinopoly will be fully supplied in ten Days; I have the King & Monajee's positive Promise of the above. I told Monajee (who gave me his Hand & word of Honour, for the completion of his Promise) that I was now certain of a supply, since the Word of a great General such as he is, is the most sacred Thing. This seem'd to strike him, & I am convinc'd will have the intended Effect. I shall set out from this at 3 o'Clock so have no time to add, only if the Provisions, are not sent in by the Time limited, I shall return to this Place & make an Agreement with some Merchants, who have offer'd to supply. I shall write soon after I get to Camp, & send you Regular Passports Returns, of the Condition of the Army, & City of Trichinopoly, in regard to Men, Arms, Ammunition & Provision; & beg you'l believe me to be Gentlemen. Your very humble & obedient Servant

Tanjore
23d. October 1754.

ALEXR. HERON.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT &
GOVERNR. &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

As the declining state of Coll. Lawrence's Health, oblig'd him to set out the 14th instant for the Settlements, without giving you any previous Notice of it, He did me the Honour to appoint me to the Command of the Army, he likewise desir'd I should continue the Command of Trichinopoly till your farther Pleasure was known;

In Consequence of these Orders I thought it my Duty to Join the Army at Woriore; in our present Situation it is equally in my Power to pay that attention to the Garrison, that is [*sic*] necessarily requires, & at the same time give a proper attendance on the Army, but should it move, I believe you will think it very requisite there should be two distinct commanding Officers.

I now enclose a Return of the Army, & also one of the present Strength of the Garrison, as agreed on & settled by Coll. Lawrence & me, before he left this Place.

As our Situation continues the same, as it has been for sometime past, I am persuaded it will be unnecessary to give you any Account of it, that having been already done by the Colonel.

[31st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. OCTOBER 1754.*——

It will give me great Pleasure to be honour'd with your Commands, which I shall always chearfully endeavour to execute to the best of my Power. I am Hoñble Sir & Sirs with the greatest Esteem Your most obedt. & most humble Servant

Woriore
16th October 1754. JAMES KILLPATRICK.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs.

I did myself the Honour to write to you the 16th. Instant which I hope you will have receiv'd.

Within these few Days many Deserters from Cheringham have come over to our Army, as I have heard it was agreeable to your Opinion, that Encouragement should be given to the Germans who quit the french Service I thought proper to entertain seven, who are young likely Fellows, & new Recruits this Year from Europe, they say they were told that some enlisting Money was to be advanc'd them as I had no Directions about it from Colonel Lawrence, I answer'd I would acquaint you, & I made no Doubt but they would have the same Advantages as others entertain'd at the Settlements; give me leave Gentlemen to observe that at the Time Captn. Gingin & Mr. Law commanded the two Army's, the same Scheme of proposing Rewards, was put in Execution, in pursuance of which the French not only offer'd Pardon, to their own People that return'd, but also greater Premiums, to theirs as well as ours. We were oblig'd to do the same, this brought on a General and daily desertion, the ill Consequences of which we very severely felt; & certainly the Hoñble Company's Service being so much preferable to the other would be sufficient encouragement, could they be assur'd of being employ'd in it, without any other Gratification whatever; I shall be glad to have your Intructions how I am to act in this Affair. The Native French most of 'em seem desirous of going down to our Settlements, as we dont entertain any of them I have sent 8 with the Nabob's Pass through the Tanjore Country, all who bring their Arms are paid for them.

All our Accounts from Cheringham agree, that there are only 150 Europeans & about 500 Seapoys with 2 Guns left on the Island the rest march'd for Pondicherry some Days ago, The King of Mysore's People remain in much the same Situation they have been in sometime past.

I heard from Coll. Heron, that he was arriv'd at Tanjore, so I expect We shall soon have him up to Commd. the Army; on his Arrival I shall go into Trichinopoly, where I shall be glad to be Honour'd with any Commands you may have for me. I am Hoñble Sir & Sirs with the greatest Esteem Your most obedient & most humble Servant. JAS. KILLPATRICK.

Woriore
24th. October 1754.

The Committee are of Opinion that the King of Tanjore's Promise of Provisions for Trichinopoly is not much to be depended on & that Major Heron should contract with the Merchants who have made him Offers in case he finds himself disappointed; With regard to Deserters from the French, no Reward should be publickly offer'd as that might very probably be attended with the Inconveniences mention'd in Major Kilpatrick's Letter of the 24th. but that all Germans who come over be enlisted into our Service & a small Sum not exceeding 5 Pagodas may be given by way of enlisting Money to such as the Commanding Officer thinks proper; & publick Notice affix'd that all who will return from Desertion shall have full Pardon.

Order'd that Letters be wrote accordingly to Major Heron & Major Killpatrick.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. OCTOBER 1754.*—— [31st.

The Committee for letting out the Manamangalum Covelong & Changalapet Countries now report that an Offer is made for the last on a Cowle for two years commencing the 1st of August last at the Rate of Pagodas 26,000 for the first year & Pagodas 27500 for the Second, but that in Consideration of the time already elaps'd they must be indulged to pay off only 22,000 Pagodas the first Year, & the other 4000 to be added to the Rent of the Second Year.

Order'd that application be made to the President & Council to grant Cowles on those Terms, it being imagin'd that no better are procureable at this time.

A Letter from Captn. Lieutt. Witherington of the Train, An Officer of the Bengal Detachmt. read, representing that the Situation of his Affairs at that Place require his immediate Presence. Agreed that Permission be granted him to proceed by the first opportunity.

Morarow who still lays near Polore in a Letter to the President now read desires that We will write to the King of Cudapah to give up to him certain Districts therein mention'd which Nabob Annaverde Cawn has granted to him—As the Nabob of Cudapah has always acted a Friendly part by us, & besides it is not our Interest to make the Morratta's more powerfull than they are it would by no means be prudent to interfere in an Affair of this Nature & therefore it is Agreed to wave Morarows Request in as friendly a manner as possible.

Draught of a Letter to the Honble the Court of Directors on the Subject of the Country Affairs. to go by the Ship Norfolk is read, approv'd & Order'd to be Copied fair.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLR. PERCEVAL.

The following Consultation is orderd to be enter'd in the Proceedings of the Committee.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present.

THURSDAY THE 31ST OCTOBER.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT — STRINGER LAWRENCE
CHARLES BODDAM — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXR. WYNCH
WILLM. PERCEVAL — JOHN SMITH.
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

The President acquaints the Board that Coll. Adlercron had signified his Consent by Lieutt. Coll. Bagshaw to wave the General Command he before insisted on so far as regards the Company's Settlements, & he now lays before the Board a Draught of an Agreement drawn & deliver'd to him by Lieutt. Coll. Bagshaw which is as follows Vizt.

It being represented to Coll. Adlercron that it would be greatly detrimental to the Reputation & to the establish'd Method of governing the Company's Settlements if the Powers granted to him by his Majesty were exercised in their full extent by him in the Company's Garrisons that are Settlements. He Coll. Adlercron intent on preserving the Harmony recommended to him purposes to make these Powers subservient to those Orders of his Majesty which require him to use his utmost Endeavours to assist the Company in their Affairs & to promote their Interest untill his Majesty's Pleasure may be farther known.

[31st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. OCTOBER 1754.*——

The following Regulations are therefore agreed to for this purpose.

His Majesty's Commander not to exercise any Authority in the Settlement Garrisons of Fort St. George, St. David or any other Settlement the Company's President & Council may think necessary, nor over the Troops & Sepoys quarter'd by them or employ'd within the Bounds of the said Settlements. If at any time it shall be necessary to take any of their Troops into Custody for Misdemeanours they shall be sent to the Company's Guard or the Commanding Officer for the Company acquainted that he may send for them.

2d. The Commander in Chief will allow Regimental Courts Martial to be held without applying on every Occasion to him & the Sentences to be approv'd of & carried into Execution as usual.

3rd. The President, Governours &ca. for the Company shall on every Representation from the Commander in Chief or by his Direction against Persons under their Authority for Misconduct or ill treatment of his Majesty's Troops cause a speedy enquiry to be made & ample Satisfaction given to the Person or Persons injur'd

4th. The President Governours &ca., to the Company will on all Occasions of Intercourse with Colonel Adlercron or the Commander in Chief for the Time being, give him the Title in the Preamble of his Instructions Vizt. commanding in Chief the Land Forces in the East Indies.

5th. And the President & Governr. for the Company will send the Commander in Chief when he shall require it Returns of the State of the Settlement Garrisons & shall give him every other Advice necessary. to promote the Service and give him all the Assistance which shall be Consistent with the safety of these Settlement Garrisons.

6th. In every other Matter both Parties shall exert themselves to promote the good Harmony, Understanding and Friendship which ought to subsist between them & which is so necessary to the Common Good.

In Witness whereof this Paper is interchangeably sign'd by &ca.. The Board do unanimously Consent to the foregoing Agreemt. untill the Pleasure of the Hon'ble Court of Directors be known..

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM: PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

1st. Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu as enter'd No. 43. agreeable to yesterday's Resolution, as also the following Letters to Major Heron & Major Killpatrick.

To ALEXANDER HERON ESQR. MAJOR OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Favours of the 22d. & 23d. October from Tanjore. We are glad to observe the hopes you have of supplying Trichenopoly with Provisions in a short Time ; however you must not put too much Confidence in the Promises

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 1ST. NOVEMBER 1754.*—— [1ST.]

of the King of Tanjore or any Eastern Chief for to avoid a present Inconvenience they make no Scruple to promise what they never intend to perform. If by their Delays you should find yourself disappointed we would have you by all means contract with the Merchants for the Quantity of Provisions necessary agreeing if Possible to have it all deliver'd by the End of the Suspension that so no Risque may be run. If you should find your Presence necessary at the Army you will reccommend the Affair of Provisions to Mr. Newton at Tanjore.

You judg'd very right with regard to the Nabob's Design of attacking the Pollygar of Addaloor—Acts of Hostility of any kind are Contrary to the Terms of the Suspension, you must therefore by all means prevent any such Enterprize.

A part of the French Army is arriv'd at Pondicherry, & we hear another large Body is on the Road; you will be particular in your Advices of the Force left at Syringham Please to acquaint Captn. Beaver that he has leave to come in upon Furloe.

We are advis'd by a Letter from Major Killpatrick that the French Troops are very much inclin'd to desert. We would have you enlist all Germans that come over, into our Service, & send the French to Fort St. David. You are not to offer any Reward to tempt them to desert, because on their Side also they would do the same, which might have a bad Effect among our own Troops; but a small Sum, not exceeding 5 Pagodas, may be given at your Discretion by way of enlisting Money to such as you think proper, & you may publish promise of full Pardon to all such of our own People as will return from Desertion. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants. THOMAS SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—S. LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
1st Novr. 1754.

To MAJOR JAMES KILLPATRICK.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 16th. & 24 October with the Returns of the Army & Garrison of Trichenopoly.

As Colonel Heron must be arriv'd with You long before this, you will again be in charge of the Fort and employ all your Endeavours for the compleating the Store of Provisions. We are of Opinion with you that the publishing any Reward to tempt Deserters to come in might be attended with bad Consequences & have wrote accordingly to Colonel Heron.

We are perfectly convinc'd of your Diligence in the Discharge of your Trust & have a just Sense of your Zeal for the Service. We are Sir Your most obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
1st. Novr. 1754.

It being thought necessary to prepare Draft and Carriage Bullocks for the Train and other Occasions of his Majesty's Troops when they are to take the Field, and Colonel Lawrence judging that of the former three Hundred will be wanted and of the latter one hundred and thirty the President wrote accordingly to Captain Gauppe at Changalapet, and to Abdul Bob Cawn & the Killedar of Chetteput to provide as many as Possible and send them into Fort St. David. 6.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 10TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

SUNDAY THE 10TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT	
GEORGE PIGOT	STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME
ALEXR. WYNCH	WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

The Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors to go by the Ship Norfolk is now sign'd & order'd to be seald in a seperate Cover & then to be enclos'd in the General Packet.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM: PERCEVAL.

Major Heron having advis'd of Hostilities committed in the Madura Country by a Party of Seapoys & some Mysore Horse contrary to the Terms of the Suspension, & no Answer being come from Mr. Godeheu to our two last of the 26th October & 1st Instant It was thought proper to write him a Letter as enter'd No. 44, & to inclose him Duplicates of the foregoing, which were this Day dispatch'd accordingly.

14TH. Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President, dated the 7th Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 45.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

FRIDAY THE 15TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT	
GEORGE PIGOT	STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH	MR. PERCEVAL absent.

The Letter from Mr. Godeheu No. 45. being read & taken into Consideration appears to the Committee to be calculated only to gain Time & prolong the Suspension untill some Supplies, which they possibly are in Expectation of receiving the beginning of the Year, arrive. We are inclin'd to believe that this is the only fresh Piece of Advice they have receiv'd by the Ship arriv'd at Mahé which left L'Orient the 10th April; for it is very certain that on our Side we have long ago been acquainted by our Superiours that no Definitive Treaty can be concluded in India, nor any Cessions Evacuations &ca. take Place, but we are at the same Time expressly directed to endeavour at a provisional Treaty which is to be transmitted to Europe & to be a Guide for the Definitive Treaty on foot there— Lord Holdernesse's Proposal rather encourages than forbids such a provisional Treaty, and Mr. Godeheu himself in the latter part of his Letter gives a very strong Reason in Favour of it. by saying it is expressly wrote him that it will be upon our Information that Affairs will be finally adjusted in Europe; How is such Information to be arriv'd at without our respective Demands are here discussd? Upon these Considerations, and in Order if possible to be enabled to give our Honble Masters some positive Light into the Intentions of the French, it is Agreed that a Letter be wrote to Mr. Godeheu setting forth that We look upon a provisional Treaty in India to be a necessary forerunner of a Definitive one in Europe, that we are still inclin'd to enter on the Conferences propos'd, or to treat with him by Letter if he prefers that Method, & that We desire he will now tell us positively whether he will treat or not.

———*FORT S^t. GEORGE, 15TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*——— [15th.]

With regard to prolonging the Suspension it is easy to perceive that the Advantage would be all on their Side. The Revenues they collect to the Northward & in this Country are infinitely larger than what We receive, & were they to remain long in their Hands undisturb'd would enable them to carry on the War with fresh Vigour. It is thought best however to be silent on this Subject that he may be as little alarm'd as Possible.

Abdul Bob Cawn having complain'd that since the Suspension the French Seapoys & Peons have encroach'd upon & seized several Villages belonging to the Tervatore, Damerpack & Carangoly Districts, it is Agreed that Representations be made of it to M^r. Godeheu in the Strongest Terms as it is the Second Complaint we have had Occasion to make of this Nature.

Since last meeting receiv'd the following Letters from Major Heron.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr. President
& Govr. & Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I got here the 24th Instant & should have been up sooner, but found it absolutely necessary to stay at Tanjore two Days, to forward Supplys of Grain for Trichinopoly & the Army which thô often promis'd, was not yet sent. on my pressing the King very earnestly, he seem'd convinc'd it was his Interest to do it, & gave Orders accordingly, in consequence of which I have got 500 Bullock Load, & expect more daily.

I found the Army in perfect good Order in every Respect; & in high Spirits, Major Killpatrick after visiting with me the advanc'd Posts & Guards & making me acquainted with the State of the Army, went into Trichinopoly to take Charge of that Garrison.

Since my arrival here & some few Days before, Many Deserters have come over, their whole Number is Sixty Eight, Fifty seven of them being Germans & Recruits this Year from Europe, I have at their own Request thought proper to form them into a Company by themselves, they seem'd very desirous of it & told me it would be a much greater inducement to others to come over. if they were kept by themselves, than if divided among the Swiss Companys, As I concluded Capt. Callender will be provided for by the Resignation of Capt. Donald Campbell, I have appointed Captn. White to this Company, Ensign Sampson to be Lieut^t. of it, but as there is a Dispute among the Voluntiers, who is eldest, I could not nominate any one to be Ensign, but should be glad to have your Directions who should be appointed & whether or no you approve of these Germans being dispos'd of in this manner; I should also be glad of a List of the Volunteers. As a farther encouragement to them, I have made those Men Serjeants & Corporals who were so in the other Service, with which the whole seem well contented; Capt. Zeigler has made a Remonstrance to Capt. Forbes as Captain of the Bombay Detachment, to apply to me that these Men should be equally divided amongst the Swiss Companys, for my own part I think it very unreasonable that they should have the Benefit of German Deserters preferable to our own Companys, when their Contracts absolutely specify, they are to be Swiss, besides it is subjecting Men who claim our Protection, to Persons who will on every Occasion dispute the Priviledges of putting their own Laws in Execution, so that in a little Time, we shall give them up compleat Company's of Men, which in fact are our own, & they will hereafter say We have no manner of authority over them. This Gentleman is my own Opinion as well as that of other Officers who I have advis'd with on this Occasion, As Col^l. Lawrence will be at Madrass by this Time, I imagine you will think it necessary to consult him about it.

As Major Kilpatrick wrote you the 24th Inst. of the Enemy's Motions towards Pondicherry & of the Strength they left in Syringham, I shall only add that all our Accounts since confirm the former one. You may be assur'd of my getting the best

[15th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*——

Intelligence possible of their farther Motions, & informing you of them on every Occasion as their Chief Forces seem now to be near their Settlements, You will judge first what Measures are proper to be taken, to prevent their taking any Advantage should an Accomodation not take Place.

I now enclose you Returns of the Army Stores & Ammunition, also of the Garrison of Trichinopoly.

As Captns. Beaver & Cosby represented to me they had Business of Consequence at the Settlements, I have given them leave to go down there, & told them to apply to you for farther Orders, as also M: Gordon who imagines he has a Right to the Ensigncy as oldest Volunteer. I am with the most perfect Esteem Honble Sir & Sirs Your most obedient & most humble Servant ALEXR. HERON.

Woriore the
26th October 1754.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVR. & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote to you of the 26th Instant with an Account of my arrival at Woriore, & at the same Time enclos'd a State of the Army.

Since that I am told by the Nabob that he has receiv'd Accounts that Coke Saib with some of the Mysore Horse & Seapoys, are endeavouring to raise disturbances in the Madura Country, that some of their stragling [*sic*] Horse have plunder'd Tenevelly, which has been in his Possession some Time past, The Nabob seems desirous that I should make a Detachment from hence with his Horse, that way, to prevent their committing any Ravages for the future, as I should be extreamly cautious of taking any Step of this kind, unless absolutely necessary from their committing repeated infringements, I thought it necessary to make you acquainted with it that I might receive your farther Instructions how to act.

The Germans who lately came over to us are learning the English Discipline, & I make no Doubt in a little Time of their being made usefull & good Troops they express much Pleasure & Satisfaction at being commanded by English Officers, & that they are Subject only to our martial Law.

We have had no other Supplys of Provision from the Tanjore Country than what I mention'd in my Last, I shall write again to the King to put him in Mind of his Promises. I am with the greatest Esteem Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient & most humble Servant A. HERON.

Woriore
29th Octor. 1754.

P.S. I have represented to Mr. Maissin this breach of the Cessation of Arms he has promis'd to enquire into it.

To THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVR. & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Yesterday Major Killpatrick receiv'd a Letter from Coll. Adlercron, acknowledging the Receipt of a General Return of the Camp & Garrison, in which was inserted the following Postcript "Please to make my Compliments to Coll. "Heron when he arrives, & acquaint him that he or whoever commands in Camp has "my Leave to hold General Courts Martial" I am well appris'd that his Authority is absolutely necessary to empower me, or any one else who has the Command of

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*—— [15TH.]

the Army to hold them, but I should imagine it ought to be done in some Form. & not in a Paragraph to another Gentleman; As you must be well acquainted Gentlemen with my present Situation, & my future Expectations of preferment in the King's Service, I should be glad to receive your Instructions as explicit as possible, in what manner I am to act, representations from Coll. Adlercron, to the King, or Duke of Cumberland, I dare say will have due Weight, & as Colonel Lawrence & Major Killpatrick, who both have commanded the Army since the Arrival of the King's Regiment, have sent Returns to him, you may be assur'd he will expect the same from me, as I would do nothing without your Approbation, & Consent, and at the same time be as expeditious as possible in sending the proper Returns if you think them requisite, I now enclose you a Letter to him, as also them sign'd in due form, if it is agreed he should have all Reports & Returns, from the Army & different Garrisons, I desire you would forward the Enclos'd to him as soon as possible, if not that you'd keep them.

I should be glad to hear your Determination as soon as Possible, also what regard I should pay to any Orders I may receive from Coll. Adlercron, I am Honble Sir & Sirs with the greatest Esteem Your most Obedient & most humble Servant ALEXR. HERON.

Woriore
31st Octor 1754.

All Difficulties being adjusted with Coll. Adlercron conformably to the Articles of Agreement enter'd in these Proceedings the 31st. October last, Agreed that the Returns of this & all the Garrisons, & of the Troops in the Field be transmitted him regularly once a Month & that on all Occasions he be addressed with the Title of Commander in Chief of the Land Forces to be employ'd in the East Indies. Order'd that a Letter be now wrote to desire him to send us a proper Power for appointing General Courts Martial, his Majesty's Warrant having been deliver'd to Lieut. Coll. Bagshaw.

A very small part of the French Force being left at Syringham, & the rest collected chiefly at Pondicherry, It is thought necessary to be better guarded against any attempts they may be inclin'd to make in this part of the Country to which end the Committee are unanimously of Opinion that Major Heron should be order'd to detach four hundred Men including Officers, & fifteen hundred Seapoys for Fort St. David as soon as ever the Weather will permit. This will at the same Time save Expence & abate the Consumption of Provisions at Trichinopoly, & our Troops will be always in readiness to march from Fort St. David, either back to Trichinopoly or to any part of the Arcot Country according to the Motions the French may make. Agreed that Coll. Adlercron be advis'd of this Resolution & the President is desir'd to inform himself in the best manner possible of the Force now at Pondicherry, Chellumbrum, & Gingee, as well in Military as Seapoys.

Coll. Lawrence acquainting the Committee that the greatest part of the Nabob's Seapoys belonging to the Garrison of Trichenopoly being very discontented for want of their Pay regularly, will probably soon determine to leave his Service, as they must be much better than any new rais'd Men and a Number is now wanted, Agreed to take such as quit the Nabob's Service into the Pay of the Company.

With regard to the German Deserters mention'd in Major Heron's Letter of the 26th the Committee are of Opinion that the Swiss Captains have no kind of Right to expect the whole, nor on the other Side do they approve of Major Heron's Method of forming them into a Company by themselves, because it is putting it too much in their Power to execute any treacherous Design, in case they should not be staunch to our Service; but the Committee think it most prudent & do accordingly resolve that they be divided among all the Companies as well English as Swiss in proportion to the Number of the full Establishment of each Company.

Order'd that Letters to Coll. Adlercron Mr. Starke, Major Heron & Mr. Hopkins be prepar'd in conformity to the above Resolutions.

[15TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 15TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*——

Lieutenant Langford being incapable of doing his Duty on account of his great Age, Order'd that he be put upon half Pay. Lieut^{t}. Bishop being dead & the Vacancy of Captn. Lieutenant by the Death of Mr John Harrison not having been filled up, Agreed that the following Commissions be issued.

To Lieut^{t}. Bilhock		as Captn. Lieutenant
Mess Robert Campbell Thomas Newton Ensign Richard Black	nominated by our Honble Masters to succeed to the first Vacancies	As Lieutenants.

The Secretary having acquainted Lieut^{t}. Sillier with the Resolution of the Committee the 15th October now reports that he is in the Hospital so much out of Order as not to be able to proceed to Europe on this Ship. Order'd that his Batta be taken off, & that he resolve before January whether to accept the Proposal made him or not.

Reflections having been made on the Character of Lieut^{t}. Patterson now Prisoner at Pondicherry, the President wrote to him some Time ago to come to Madrass to vindicate himself, & to M^{r}. Godeheu to desire his leave. M^{r}. Godeheu having given no answer on the Subject, & there being some Reason to suspect that Lieut^{t}. Patterson has a Design to stay with the French, Agreed that M^{r}. Godeheu's Leave be again requested in the Letter now to be wrote him, & that the Adjutant inform M^{r}. Patterson that he will be struck off the List of Officers if he does not immediately come.

Captn. Gaupp writes on the Subject of Draft Bullocks that he believes two hundred might be collected without any Inconvenience to the Inhabitants but that the People are unwilling to sell them—Order'd that the President write to him to take two from every Village but that he try them all before he purchase them & receive only such as he finds to be fit for the Draft of Guns & Tumbrils.

Captn. Howes advises from Arcot that there is a Vackeel of the King of Mysore's along with Morarow & that he is inform'd he will return again into his Service to which he is induc'd not only by very Advantagious Offers on the part of that King, but also by a large Force said to be on the Borders of his own Country to oppose his Return.

A Letter from Nabob Anaverde Cawn read acquainting the President that he has receiv'd fresh Saneds for the Arcot Country from Salabad Jung. Copies of which he has sent to Antazee Punt his Vakeel at this Place.

Letters from Sanawasa Chery, Renter & Kisnazee Punt Tasealdar at Tripoty advising that the former has transmitted a Bill for the further Sum of Pagodas five Thousand (5000) on Account of the Kist, which Bill the Commissary acknowledges to have receiv'd.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME
A^{R}. WYNCH.
WILL^{M}. PERCEVAL.

16TH. Sent the following Letters to Col^{l}. Adlercron, M^{r}. Starke, Major Heron & Mr. Hopkins agreable to yesterday's Resolution.

To COL^{L}. JOHN ADLERCRON COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE LAND FORCES TO BE EMPLOY'D IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

Having deliver'd his Majesty's Warrant to Lieut^{t}. Col^{l}. Bagshaw we beg the Favour you will send us the necessary Powers for appointing General Courts Martial among the Company's Troops.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 16TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*—— [16TH.]

Mr. Starke will deliver you Returns of the Garrisons of Fort St. George & Fort St. David for the last Month & so continue regularly. We have sent Orders to all the other Settlements as well as the Commanding Officers in the Field to do the same.

The greatest part of the french Force being collected at Pondicherry, We have order'd Coll. Heron to send a Party of 400 Men & fifteen hundred Seapoys as soon as Possible to Fort St. David, that so we may be in readiness to oppose any attempt that may be made this way. We have been endeavouring to bring on Conferences with the French in order if possible to arrive at an Accomodation, at least, to get a knowledge of their Pretentions. As yet however they have declin'd it, Upon the whole we have no hopes of Peace & therefore should be glad of your Opinion of the Measures necessary to be pursued at the Expiration of the Suspension, We are Sir Your most Obedient humble Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
16th Novr. 1754.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

Inclos'd is a Return of the Garrison of Fort St. George for the last Month which you will please to deliver to Coll. Adlercron with one of the Fort St. David Garrison. This is to be done regularly every Month & you are on all Occasions to give him the Title of Commander in Chief of the Land Forces to be employ'd in the East Indies. We are, Sir. Your most Obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
16th Novr. 1754.

P.S. Please to acquaint Captn. Pascal that he has our Permission to come to Madrass.

To ALEXANDER HERON ESQR. MAJOR OF THE HON'BLE COMPANY'S FORCES ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL.

Sir

Since Writing you the first Instant we have receiv'd your Letters of the 26th. 29th. & 31st. October, having consented to furnish Coll. Adlercron with the Returns of all our Garrisons & Troops we have forwarded your Letter to him & desire you will transmit him your Returns regularly every Month—In other Respects you are not under his Orders. We have wrote to him for Powers to appoint General Courts Martial, for you ought certainly to be furnish'd with a regular Commission.

As the greatest part of the French Army is remov'd to Pondicherry we think it proper to have a Force to oppose them in case they should make any attempt this way, & therefore desire that you will as soon as the Weather Permits detach a Body of four hundred Men including Officers of which the Number should not be less than three Captains & six Subalterns, with fifteen hundred Seapoys ordering them to march directly to Deve Cotah & from thence to St. David. The Roads must be so bad that we would not have you attempt to send any Artillery with them.

We have made the proper Representations to Mr. Godeheu on the Subject of the Hostilities committed in the Madura Country & at Tinnevelly. if these should be ineffectual & more Irregularities of this Nature be committed we would have you make a formal Demand of Redress to the french commanding Officer & advise us of his Answer.

[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 16TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*——

We are inform'd there are several of the Nabob's Seapoys belonging to the Garrison of Trichenopoly, who not getting their Pay regularly, are very discontented, & inclin'd to leave his Service; If you shou'ld find this to be the Case, we would have you take them into the Company's Pay, for they are better than any new rais'd Men. As to the German Deserters, We do not approve of the forming them into a Company by themselves, but would have them divided among all the Companies, as well Swiss as English, in proportion to the Number of the full Establishment of each Company.

The Captn. Lieutenancy not having been filled up and Lieutt. Bishop's Death having caus'd another Vacancy, we have made the following Promotions.

Lieutenent Bilhock to be Captn. Lieutenant.

Robert Campbell and Thomas Newton } to be Lieutenants

Messrs. Burk and Lister } to be Ensigns

In the disposal of the Ensign's Commissions, We have preferr'd those Voluntiers who have been longest on Duty. Captns. Beaver & Cosby are arriv'd here.

We imagin'd the King of Tanjore would fall short of his Promises in the Affair of Provisions. By all means endeavour to compleat your Store, both by Contracting with the Merchants and pressing the King. The Removal of the Detachment we have order'd will help a little by abating the Consumption, & Coll. Lawrence acquaints us that the Neloor Subadar's Knowledge & Interest in the Country has frequently been of Service in this Particular; It may therefore be useful for you to consult with him on the Occasion, We are Sir, Your most Obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY. POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
16th. Novr. 1754.

To MR. CHARLES HOPKINS CHIEF OF DEVE COTAH.

Sir

You are to transmit a Monthly Return of your Garrison regularly to Coll. John Adlercron to whom you are to give the Title of Commander in Chief of the Land Forces to be employ'd in the East Indies. Begin immediately with sending him your last Months Return. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants—THOS. SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
16th Novr. 1754.

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu of this Date agreeable to yesterday's Resolution as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 46.

18TH. Sent the following Letter from the President to Mr. Starke.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNOUR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

As a large Body of the French Army has remov'd from Syringham, I should be glad to be inform'd of the Numbers they now have in Pondicherry, Chellumbrum & Gingee — Please to send out Spies to get as exact an Account as possible of their force in those Places as well of Seapoys as Europeans. I am, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant.

Fort St George
18th Novr. 1754.

THOS. SAUNDERS

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 25TH. NOVEMBER 1754.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 25TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT — STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY — ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH — WILLIAM PERCEVAL

A Letter from Captain Gaupp advising that the Rains have done great Damage to the Fortifications of Changalapet & that the French Prisoners are a very great Burthen to that Garrison.

Order'd that such Repairs be immediately made as are necessary for the Defence of the Fort, and Agreed in Case Mr. Godeheu, for whose Answer We are still waiting, does not accede to the Exchange of Prisoners that those now at Changalapet be remov'd hither immediately of all which the President will advise Captn Gaupp.

A Letter from the Nabob of Cudapah read advising of his Design to send his Troops to act in Conjunction with Ours, in answer to which the President is desir'd to write him, that We are very much pleas'd with this mark of his Friendship, & to desire him to dispatch a strong Body with as much Expedition as possible that they may be in readiness to take the Field immediately on the expiration of the Suspension, besides which their speedy March will secure them from any Interruption on the Road.

Captn. Ogilvy in a Letter to the President now read, complains that altho' he has a Captn's Commission he receives only Lieutenant's Pay, which he prays may be rectified.

Coll. Lawrence hereupon acquaints the Committee that Mr. Ogilvy did receive a Capts. Brevet at Bombay, in order to give him Rank over several Gentlemen that came from Europe in the same Station. This is certainly contrary to the Intentions of the Honble Court of Directors, and there are several other Irregularities among the Bombay Troops which Coll. Lawrence is desir'd to represent to the Governr. of Bombay, but as Mr. Ogilvy does bear a Captains Commission it is agreed that he receive Pay accordingly.

The President is desir'd to write to the Nabob & the King of Tanjore to advise them of the Detachment order'd from Trichinopoly, acquainting them fully with the Reasons that they may be free from any Uneasiness And as it will be very necessary to have a Body of the Tanjore Horse to act with the Army the President is desir'd to press the King to have his Troops in rediness [*sic*] to take the Field even before the Suspension expires.

A Letter from Major Kilpatrick read advising only that he incloses the Monthly Accounts of that Garrison for October last.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 14th Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 47. 27

Receiv'd another Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 25th. Ultimo as enter'd No. 48. DECEMBER 1.

[1ST.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 1ST DECEMBER 1754.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

SUNDAY THE 1ST.

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.	GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT	STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH	WILLIAM PERCEVAL

Mr. Godeheu's Letter No. 47 is only to advise of his Intention of sending a Detachment to his Northwd. Grants. No. 48. acknowledges the Receipt of the President's Letter of the 26th. & mentions that he has given strict Orders on the Subject of the Incursions of the Mysoreans into the Madura Country, but it is very remarkable that he does not say one Word of the Exchange of Prisoners on which Subject he has been repeatedly press'd.

The President acquaints the Committee that he lately receiv'd Advice that a Party consisting chiefly of about 150 Germans under the Command of Mr. Law were come from Pondicherry to Sadrass, which place they enter'd with two English Flags, that they are now marching thrô the Changalapet Country the Renters of which have made a Complaint that some of their Cattle have been seiz'd by them & all the Inhabitants very much disturb'd.

This Party is probably the same as is mention'd in Mr. Godeheu's Letter of the 14th. but it is thought not prudent to trust too much to his Assurances of their pacifick Intentions especially since they have already given Room for Complaint, the Committee do therefore unanimously resolve that a Party of Observation consisting of about two hundred Europeans & three hundred Seapoys do march immediately under the Command of Coll. Lawrence and endeavour to come up with the French, to prevent any Incursions into our Limits, to demand the destination of their Troops & to require a proper Satisfaction if any Thing is done contrary to the Tenour of the Treaty Subsisting, or tending to the Dishoneur or detriment of the Nation, but great Care is at the same time to be taken not to infringe the Suspension of Arms. Another good Effect of this Party may be the Desertion of several Germans, some of whom are come in & the wholse [*sic*] so discontented that the News & approach of our Troops may very probably tempt many to make their Escape; & in case the Design of the French Detachment should prove to be to join Morarow who is gone into the Cuddapah Country to attack that Nabob it is Agreed as he is in Alliance with us that our Troops do proceed to succour him & that it be left to Coll. Lawrence either to go with them himself or give the Command to any other Officer he thinks proper.

Instructions for Coll. Lawrence agreeable to the above Resolutions are orderd to be drawn out immediately and to be enter'd after these Minutes. Agreed likewise that Application be made to the President & Council for an Advance of twenty Thousand (20,000) Rupees for the Service of this Expedition, & that a Letter for the Nabob of Cuddapah be deliver'd to Colonel Lawrence to advise him of the Subsistence he is to pay to the Officers & Troops during their Stay with him.

As Mr. Law is under Parole to the Nabob the Committee are of Opinion that his appearance athe [*sic*] head of an arm'd Body in this Country is a Breach, at least in Honour, of such Parole and it is agreed that a Representation be made of it to Mr. Godeheu.

A Person in a Conycoply's Dress having been stopp'd in our Bounds which he enter'd without giving the least Notice with Seventeen French Seapoys Arm'd & without any Passport or Dustuch—It is thought proper to detain him untill enquiry can be made into his Character, and Designs which from the above Circumstances appear very Doubtful. The President will Endeavour to get all the Information possible concerning him.

——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, 1ST. DECEMBER 1754.*——— [1ST.]

Captn. Gaupp writes from Changalapet that the French Party pass'd within six Miles of that Place the 29th Ulto. The President is desir'd to give Orders to him and to Captn. Howes at Arcot to be very punctual in their Advices of the Motions of any Detachments abroad.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE COMPANY'S FORCES IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

Remonstrances having been made to Monsieur Godeheu of an Infringement of the Suspension and no Answer yet return'd, a Detachment of French under Command of Monsr. Laws [*sic*] having been at Sadrass & now marching thrô our Districts before We had publick Notice of it, though by private Accounts We many Days before heard of such a Design, & this Detachment having by report with them two English Flags, though Monsieur Godeheu in a Letter of the 4th. rec'd the 27th mentions his sending a Force to the Northward yet appearances are so strong that Justice to ourselves requires We should not put an implicit Confidence in his Declaration, the displaying English Flags in a French Camp the Command being invested in an Officer on Parole are very particular, We therefore think it necessary to detach a Party of Observation under your Command & furnish you with Hircars for Intelligence, you will take the most expeditious Route to meet them, demand the Destination of those Troops, The Reason of assuming our Colours, and inform yourself whether Monsr. Laws is not acting contrary to his Parole, if you find they are acting contrary to the Articles of Suspension the Tenour of Monsr. Laws's Parole or the English Flags are to the dishonour of the Nation, you will endeavour to get such Satisfaction as your Force can give you being carefull at the same Time not to act contrary to the Treaty subsisting, We are inform'd that Morarow in passing the Nabob of Cuddapah's Districts met with a Repulse and is at the Fort of Kistnagary, this Prince is our ally, if the French Troops should be design'd to assist Morarow against him 'tis an Infringement of the Suspension. You may in such Case go yourself or give the Command to such Officer as you Judge proper, ordering him to join the Nabob of Cuddapah but as this is an Affair that depends on Circumstances We leave it to you to act as you Judge for the good of the Service, should you pursue this Measure We deliver you a Letter to him stipulating the Pay & Batta of the Troops which you may send if Occasion requires. We shall be glad to hear constantly from you that We may give you the proper Assistance.

Wishing you Success We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants THOMAS SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME.—AR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
1st Decemr. 1754.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present;

TUESDAY 3D. DECEMR.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT — STRINGER LAWRENCE
CHARLES BODDAM — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXR. WYNCH
WILLM. PERCEVAL. — JOHN SMITH
CHARLES BOURCHIER.

Letter from Coll. Adlercron read as follows Vizt.

[8p.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 3D. DECEMBER 1754.*——

To the Hoñ'ble the President & Council
at Fort St. George

Gentlemen

I receiv'd the Favour of your Letter of the 16th Instant; And herewith enclose you a sufficient Power to hold general Courts martial.

Col[l]. Bagshaw sent me Reasons for not requiring regular Monthly Returns; which I think just: therefore will be satisfied with them when requir'd, or when it is safe to send them.

I am not sufficiently acquainted with the Situation of Affairs, to propose Measures necessary to be pursued at the Expiration of the Suspension; and if I was in my opinion it would be imprudent to communicate them by Letter, I therefore am determin'd immediately to go to Madrass; where I hope the desire to promote the same Cause, will create such an Unanimity, and Spirit, in our Councils as shall enable us to oppose with Vigour any Attempts desin'd [*sic*] against us by the French. It would give me much Concern if my refusing to sign the Convention should in the least hurt the Service: But Gentlemen thõ I am sent to assist you with all my Power (and I assure you with Pleasure) yet I must not neglect one part of his Majesty's Instructions by pursuing another. I did not in an Affair of such Consequence rely solely on my Judgment; but call'd a Council of War. the proceedings of which are sent to Col[l]. Bagshaw.

As it never was my Intention to make such a use of my Power that could in any manner be detrimental to the Company's Settlements, I flatter'd Myself that my past Conduct deserv'd a little more Confidence; & am certain my future Behaviour should never have given you the least Reason to repent it. I shall say no more on this Subject, but leave it to my Actions to shew the sincerity of my Words. I am Gentlemen Your most Obedient hũble Servant.

Cuddalore
27th. Nov[r]. 1754. John Adlercron.

To Tho[s]. Saunders Esq[r]. President of Madrass
or the President for the time being—

John Adlercron Esq[r]. Colonel in his Majesty's the King of Great Britain's Service, and commanding in Chief the Land Forces to be employ'd in the East Indies.

By Virtue of the Power and Authority to me by his Majesty's in this behalf given; I do hereby empower you to appoint General Courts Martial to be held for the trying of the Troops in the Service of the Hoñble the East India Company; except where I shall be personally present.

Cuddalore
27th Novem[r]. 1754. John Adlercron.

Colonel Adlercron in his Letter of the 8th October having signified to the Board that finding it inconvenient to come hither himself at that time agreeable to our Invitation, he had sent Lieutenant Col[l]. Bagshaw to concert measures with us and Lieut[t]. Colonel Bagshaw having in Col[l]. Adlercron's Name proposed & Agreed to the Articles or Convention as enter'd in the Minutes of the 31st October, It was little expected that Col[l]. Adlercron should refuse to sign what the Person he had deputed to adjust these Difficulties had promis'd in his Name should be done, however as Col[l]. Adlercron is shortly expected here & may probably see cause to alter his Sentiments in this Respect, it is resolv'd not to take any Step in consequence of his

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 3D. DECEMBER 1754.*—— [3D.]

Letter at present; the Board do nevertheless declare that they continue of the same Sentiments with Respect to Col[l]. Adlercron's Powers, as are express'd in the Minutes of Consultation dated the 28th September last.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A[R]. WYNCH.
WILL[M]. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHA[S]. BOURCHIER.

Sent a Letter from the President to M[r]. Godeheu of this Date agreeable to yesterday's Resolution as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 49. 2d

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQ[R]. GOVERN[R]. PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEX[R]. WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

TUESDAY THE 3D.

Repeated Accounts being Yesterday receiv'd that the Party under the Command of M[r]. Law were pass'd considerably to the Northward of Poonemalee, and that they intend for Puliacat Col[l]. Lawrence thought proper to halt our Detachment untill he could have the Opinion of the Committee whether any Advantage could be expected from its March, as it would be impossible to come near the French before their Arrival at that Settlement.

It being consider'd hereupon that our Limits are now Secure & that by the best Intelligence we can get the Intention of the French Party is to march directly from Puliacat to Metchlepatam without making any Attempt in the Cuddapah Country, It is Resolv'd to order the Detachm[t]. immediately back into Garrison that we may not incur a useless Expence.

The Letter to the King of Cuddapah is hereupon deliver'd back to the President Who acquaints the Committee

That the Man mention'd in the last Meeting to be stopp'd proves to be a Pondicherry Conicoply, that he pretends he came to negociate Money with a Soucar here, which Soucar having been question'd on the Subject declar'd he was entirely ignorant of any such Intention. As this is a very obscure Story it is agreed that he be sent back to Pondicherry with a Letter to M[r]. Godeheu, acquainting him of the Circumstances & representing to him the Irregularity of his coming into our Limits with an armed Force without any Dustuch or previous Notice.

It appearing by the Accounts from Camp that Captain Forbes who commanded the Bombay Party has constantly drawn 15 Rupees a Day Batta as commanding Officer which the Committee do not conceive he has the least Title to after his arrival at Camp when he became no more than a private Captain under the Orders of Col[l]. Lawrence, It is therefore Resolv'd that 15 Rupees a Day be allow'd him for the Time he was on the March during which he was Commanding Officer of the Party, & that whatever he has since receiv'd above six Rupees (the Customary Allowance to Officers of his Rank) be refunded & discontinued in future.

[3D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 3D. DECEMBER 1754.*——

Order'd that the Secretary prepare Cyphers to be made use of in our Correspondence with the Commander of the Army and of our Several Garrisons in case of any Risque of Letters being intercepted.

It being necessary to send a large Supply of Military Stores to Fort St. David to answer the Demands of the Army, & the Garrison of Trichinopoly: and the Owner of a Country Vessell now lying in Anore River offering to lend her for that Service, on Condition only that we will make a few Repairs necessary to enable her to proceed, Order'd that Lascars be sent for that Purpose & that she be got in readiness as fast as possible.

A letter from Richard Starke Esqr. read advising that he has deliver'd the Returns of the Garrison of Fort St. George & Fort St. David to Coll. Adlercron agreeable to our Directions.

Captn. Howes advises that the late heavy Rains have done very Considerable Damage to the Fortifications of Arcot, Timmery, Covrepauk & Muslepauk; that he is inform'd Morarow after passing the Hills into the Patana's Country, met with Opposition & was oblig'd to retire to Kisnagary Fort about 70 Miles distant from Arcot.

The President has already wrote to Captain Howes to forward the Repairs of the Fortifications of Arcot as much as possible, & to Abdul Bob Cawn to furnish Artificers & Materials.

Lieutenant Monchanin being sent in from Camp has since his arrival acknowledg'd his Error & begg'd to remain in the Service: As he is esteem'd a good Officer it is agreed to give him this Indulgence which it is to be hop'd will have a proper Effect on his future Behaviour.

Abdul Bob Cawn & the Killedar of Chettapet write that they are using their utmost Endeavours to procure the Draught and Carriage Bullocks wanted.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

4TH. Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu of this Date agreeable to yesterdays Resolution as enter'd in the french Correspondence No. 50.

5TH. Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated 29th Ultimo as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 51.

Wherein it being observ'd that Mr. Godeheu still avoids giving any Answer in regard to the Exchange of Prisoners, the President with the Concurrence of the Committee wrote a Letter to Mr. Godeheu on that Subject of this Date as enter'd No. 52.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

FRIDAY THE 6TH.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
GEORGE PIGOT STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Mr. Godeheu's Letter No. 51 is taken into Consideration & debated maturely as the Consequence of the Subject deserves. It is plain he wishes strongly for a prolongation of the Suspension, & so do We provided it be settled on secure Terms, & to be continued in force untill Answers are receiv'd from Europe. For any shorter Time it may possibly suit his Purpose, & not ours; Our Force is already

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, 6TH. DECEMBER* 1754.——— [6TH.]

collected, he perhaps is in expectation of more. However as he makes a Declaration that the Intention of his most Christian Majesty is no more than to put an Equality between the two Companies it is agreed that proposals be made him conformable to that System to which if he will accede as a provisional Treaty we are ready to sign a Truce to continue in Force untill the Receipt of Answers from Europe to such Agreement, & no Cessions Retrocessions or Evacuations to take Place till then, no new possessions made, no Fortifications built.

All this is agreeable to our Honble Master's Instructions in the first Paragraph of their Letter of the 3d. April, the which lying upon the Table for our Directions, the following Articles are form'd with the unanimous concurrence of the Committee to be transmitted to Mr. Godeheu.

First. That the equality declar'd by Mr. Godeheu to be the Intention of his most Christian Majesty be the Basis.

Second. That in the Tanjore Country the English have Devecotah, the French Karical.

Third. That in the Arcot Country the English have Fort St. George and Fort St. David; The French Pondicherry with Districts equal to those of Madrass & St. David together.

Fourth. That Mazulipatam & Divy be deliver'd to the Moors or in case the French keep Mazulipatam, the English shall have Divy.

Fifth. That the English keep Bandarmalanka, or have a Settlement on the Narsapore River, & that the French have a Factory on the same River with equal Districts that the Passage of the River be free & open for ever.

Sixth. That the English have the Choice of Coringee or Sunerapollam & the French, Yanam, with equal Districts. that the Passage of that River be also free & open for ever.

Seventh. That the French may form a Settlement in the Chickacul Country equal to Vizagapatam but not nearer to it than Bimlepatam to the Northward, & Pondemarke to the Southward.

.. Upon the signing of these Articles as a Provisional Treaty to be referr'd to the final Determination of the two Companies under the Approbation of the two Crowns, the Truce is to take Place as aforesaid And

In order to establish Peace in the Country it is agreed that We propose to oblige our Allies on both Sides to accede to this Truce, by which means the possession of Trichinopoly, & the several Districts in our hands & in the Nabob's will be made secure, & the Revenues peaceably collected for the Discharge of his Debt to the Company.

Although the above Articles are perfectly conformable to Mr. Godeheu's Declaration, yet some Difficulties or Evasions may possibly still be started, & so a useless Correspondence be carried on for ever; In order therefore that no more Time may be lost, as the Suspension is so near at an end; It is agreed that the Revd. Mr: Palk & Mr. Vansittart do carry the Letter to Pondicherry, pay Mr. Godeheu a Visit in a private Character, explain upon the Spot any Points that may need a Discussion, & insist on a final Answer.

Orderd that the Letter to Mr. Godeheu & Instructions for Messrs. Palk & Vansittart be prepar'd as speedily as possible.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Major Heron.

To the Hon'ble Thos. Saunders Esqr. Presidt. & Govr. & Gentn. of Committee of Correspondence.

Honble Sir & Sirs

From the continued Rains some time past, the Rivers have rose so high, that We have not been able to get any considerable Supplys of Grain for the Garrison of

[6TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 6TH. DECEMBER 1754.*——

Trichinopoly, Mr. Newton advis'd me above a Week ago, of his forwarding from Tanjore 1000 Bullocks Load of Rice, which I hear is detain'd on the Road by the excessive wet Season & deepness of the Rivers; I have order'd all the Coolies to be constantly employ'd in laying up a Magazene of Fire Wood, which was much wanted, & hope as soon as the Weather becomes a little more favourable, I shall be able to give you a good State of the Garrison, in respect to Provisions & other Necessaries.

I was inform'd on my joining the Army, that Coll. Lawrence had given an Order for raising 300 Seapoys & that as soon as Arms could be got up from Fort St. Davids, 700 Men were to be raised, conformable to the Instructions he had receiv'd from the Presidency, & that they were intended to be sent down to Act with the Kings Troops, we have now compleated the 300, but have not in Camp sufficient Number of spare Arms for them, I have therefore given Orders to desist from recruiting any more, till I either receive your Orders, or farther Supplys of Arms; raising the whole Number now would be putting the Company to an unnecessary Expence, as it is impossible to send them down to the Settlements during the Monsoon, & I am told they can soon be compleated when wanted.

The enclos'd Paper is a Court of Enquiry on Frederick Bowers for the Death of John Geives, as it is properly cognizable by the Civil Law, I suspended ordering a Court Martial till I receiv'd your Answer, I believe you will agree with me in thinking his Death accidental, there is also a Man in the Guard Room of Trichinopoly under Sentence of a General Court Martial, which Coll. Lawrence suspended putting in Execution on your acquainting him, that Coll. Adlercron had the Sole Power of appointing General Courts Martial, I should be glad to know, what he is to be done with.

As my Reason for giving Captns. Cosby & Beaver leave to go down to the Settlements was their assuring me, they had urgent Business which a few Days would compleat, & they would then return immediately to Camp, I hope you will remind them of their Promise.

Within these few Days I am inform'd about 1000 of the Mysore Horse, have quitted their old Camp, and marched up the Banks of the Coleroon about 30 Miles, & that their Intention is to cross over as soon as the Waters are a little lower, & go to the Madura Country, I hear of no other alteration from the Enemy's former Disposition.

I shall be glad to be frequently honour'd with your Commands, since my joining the Army I have not had the pleasure of receiving any.

I am, Hoñble Sir & Sirs with great Esteem

Your most Obedient & most humble Servt.

Alexr. Heron.

Woriore.

14th. Novemr. 1754.

Order'd that the Seapoys be sent down without Arms to Fort St. David before the Expiration of the Suspension & as Major Heron has already been directed to detach a Body of fifteen hundred who will be in readiness to take the Field with the Kings Troops it is agreed that no more be rais'd for the present.

Receiv'd a Letter from Major Kilpatrick as follows.

To the Hoñble Thos. Saunders Esqr. President
& Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

The heavy Rains that have lately fallen here has done great Damage to the Garrison in general; particularly to the Walls which are fallen down in several Places thirty or forty Yards in length, and quite level with the Surface of the Water in the Ditch.

—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, 6TH. DECEMBER 1754.*—— [6TH.]

There were two of our Batteries, Guns & all tumbled down Yesterday into the False Bray.

Our Hospitals Prisons & Magazeen's are also greatly damaged, & few houses left standing in the Town; the Rains still continue very Violent.

This Gentlemen requires your strictest Attention, & you may depend on my employing all the working People I have or can get; in the best manner for the Safety & Good of the Garrison.

Bricklayers are the People most wanted at this Juncture, as there are none to be got here only these who have been Constantly in our Pay I have the Honour to be

Honble Sir & Sirs

Trichinopoly 19th. Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

November 1754. JAMES KILLPATRICK.

Mr. Starke advises that upon Information of the Damages mention'd in Major Killpatrick's Letter he had dispatchd twenty one Bricklayers & five Stone Cutters to Trichenopoly to assist in repairing it, which proceeding the Committee approve, and it is agreed that Letters be wrote to Major Heron & Major Killpatrick, recommending that Work to their particular Attention and directing them to press the Nabob to furnish all the Workmen & Materials procurable.

Captn. Gaupp writes that he shall have 150 or 200 good Bullocks ready very soon & desires a Passport to send with them to Fort St. David.

Order'd that a French & an English Dustuch be transmitted to him—And as Mr. Godeheu so long delays an Answer on the Subject of the Exchange of Prisoners and secure Places are ready for the Reception of those at Changalapet, It is Agreed that they be immediately brought in hither, and Coll. Lawrence is desir'd to send a proper Escort from hence.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Sent the following Letter to Major Heron & Major Kilpatrick agreeable to Yesterday's Resolution. 7TH.

To ALEXR. HERON EsqR MAJOR OF THE HON'BLE COMPYS FORCES ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL.

Sir

We imagine the bad Weather must have stopp'd our Letter of the 1st. which We find by yours of the 14th. had not reach'd you at that Time. We wrote you again the 16th. and inclose you a Duplicate for fear of Accidents.

Major Kilpatrick writes that the Rains have done considerable Damage to the Fortifications of Trichinopoly. You will do all in your Power to forward the Repairs & represent the great Consequence of it to the Nabob. Mr. Starke has sent 21 Bricklayers & 5 Stone Cutters from St. David.

Mr. Ogilvy has represented that although he has a Captain's Commission he is allow'd only Lieutenant's Pay. We find this Commission was given him that he might take Rank of several Gentlemen that came from Europe with Captain's Brevets; This We hold to be an irregular proceeding but as he has a Commission as Captain

[7TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 7TH. DECEMR. 1754.*——

he certainly shou'd receive Allowances Accordingly, & We desire you will see it rectified—Captn. Forbes We observe has drawn constantly 15 Rupees a Day Batta as Commanding Officer which We cannot conceive he has the least Right to, after his arrival at Camp under the Orders of Coll. Lawrence, for if he does not command the Army he is no more than a private Captain. You will therefore tell him that We expect he will refund all that he has receiv'd above six Rupees a Day since his Arrival at Camp, & take Care it is discontinued in future.

We mention'd in our last the Nomination of Messrs. Burk & Lister to be Ensigns; Upon a stricter Examination We found the appointment to be wrong. Messrs. David Blake Knox & Bannatyne coming from Europe & being declar'd in Orders as Officers before the others have a prior Right and a Commission is prepar'd for Mr. Blake by the Vacancy caus'd by the Promotion of Mr. Black.

We desire you will send us with every Return a list of the French Prisoners in Trichenopoly. Mr. Godeheu writes that he has given the strictest Orders to Mr. Maissin to prevent any Incursions of the Mysoreans, & directed him in case they continue to commit Irregularities to Join with You and Act against them We hope this will have it's proper Effect.

The Seapoys you have rais'd may be sent to Fort St. David without Arms before the Expiration of the Suspension, & as we find they are to be got at so short a warning you may at present desist from raising any more.

We have perus'd the Enquiry and are of your Opinion that the Death of John Geives was quite Accidental.

The Man in the Guard Room is under Sentence of a large Number of Lashes; You may remit the half & let him receive the rest.

We are advis'd that Morarow having cross'd the Hills into the Pattanna's Country met with some Opposition there & has been oblig'd to retire to Kistnagery Fort about 70 Miles distant from Arcot. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants. THOS. SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
7TH. Decemr. 1754.

To MAJOR KILPATRICK.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 19th. Novr. advising of the Damages done by the Rains to the Fortifications of Trichenopoly.—Mr. Starke has sent 21 Bricklayers & 5 Stone Cutters to assist in repairing them, which are all that can be spared, We reccommend this Work to your strictest Attention, and you will press the Nabob to furnish all the Workmen and Materials he can, We are, Sir Your most Obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
7TH. Decemr. 1754.

9TH. Arriv'd Coll. John Adlercron from Fort St. David

10TH. Messrs. Palk & Vansittart set out from Pondicherry with two Letters from the President to Mr. Godeheu dated 9th. & 10th. Instt. as enter'd in the french Correspondence No. 53 & 54. Also their Instructions as follow.

To THE REVD. MR. ROBERT PALK & MR. HENRY VANSITTART.

Gentlemen

Our Correspondence with Monsr. Godeheu having produc'd Nothing more from him than some loose hints flung out seemingly more with a View of informing

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, 10TH. DECEM^R. 1754.*—— [10TH.]

himself of our Sentiments, than an Intention to clear up such Points as tend to a Pacification, in Justice to ourselves we cannot acquiesce in being thus amus'd, but have determin'd on having a positive Answer— And this is the Design of the Address now deliver'd You for him, & as some Points may offer to be discuss'd, you are for that purpose commission'd ; not to appear in a Publick Character but as an Accidental Visit.

Should Monsr. Godeheu propose a Truce of a short duration it may probably Answer his Purpose but not ours therefore immediately tell him that We object to it—For as every thing is referr'd to Europe for a Conclusion, The Truce must remain in force till Answers can be receiv'd from thence, should in the Interim any Advice arrive from thence of a Treaty concluded, such Treaty will not be affected.

If Monsr. Godeheu declines entering on the Adjustment of the several Districts in each Province it may be referr'd to Europe provided a General Article be inserted that an Equality of Possessions be establish'd & particularly that if the French remain in Possession of Metchlepatam Diu must be deliver'd to the English not as an Invariable Law but left to the definitive Conclusion of the two Companies under the Approbation of the two Crowns—and no Cessions, Retrocessions or Evacuations to be made till then.

A positive Answer must be insisted on, you may stay three Days on the 4th demand it. & if none is given, declare you regard it as a Refusal and come away, except that in the Negociation you find a probability of Success, & something happens to want an Explanation from hence then you may write but let no time be lost. We are, Gen^tn, Your most Obedient Servants THO^S. SAUNDERS—GEO: PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort S^t. George
9th. Decr. 1754.

Receiv'd a Letter from Monsr. Godeheu to the President dated the 6th Instant as enter'd No. 55—This being on the Subject of the French Conicoply stopp'd at Marmelon, who has already been sent back needs no Reply.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 8th Instant [11TH.] as enter'd No. 56. Which being communicated to the Committee, the following Letter was immediately wrote to Mr. Westcott.

To FOSS WESTCOTT ESQ^R. RESIDENT AT INGERAM.

Sir

M^r. Godeheu has lately complain'd to us of an open Act of Hostility committed by you in firing upon some of the French Company's Peons in their own Bounds who were endeavouring to prevent the Desertion of five of their Soldiers, We refer you to the accompanying Copy of M^r. D'Bussey's Letter & extract of M^r. Godeheu's for the Particulars of this Affair as it is represented to us, & We cannot help taking Notice of it, because if it be true you certainly have acted very contrary to the Law of Nations ; had you sent a Detachment even to the extremity of our Company's Bounds to favour the Desertion without firing on the French in their Limits, or had the French pursued the Deserters into our Bounds & you had there attack'd them, in either of these Cases you might have been justified, but as the Action is now stated We must condemn it, & in that Case you must restore the Deserters on promise of Pardon ; You will acquaint Us immediately of the Particulars of this Affair, as well as in Relation to the French Company's Peon whom you unjustly punish'd as M^r. Godeheu represents, and address your Letter on this Subject to the Comittee for Affairs of Country Government. We are, Sir, Your affectionate Friends. THO^S. SAUNDERS — GEO: PIGOT — STRINGER LAWRENCE — HEN^Y. POWNEY — ROB^T. ORME—ALEX^R. WYNCH—WILL^M. PERCEVAL.

Fort S^T. George
11th. Decem^r. 1754.

———*FORT ST· GEORGE, 12TH· DECEMBER 1754.*———

12TH, Sent a Letter from the President to Monsr· Godeheu of this Date in Answer to his of the 8th Enterd No. 57.

14TH, Receiv'd a Letter from Monsr· Godeheu to the President dated the 10th Instant as enter'd No. 58.

16TH, Coll· John Adlercron having this Day deliver'd to the President & Council a Letter setting forth that he cannot sign the Convention drawn by Lieutt· Coll· Bagshaw as enter'd in these Proceedings the 31 October last thinking it Contradictory to his Majesty's Instructions to him; the President and Council to avoid any farther Disputes on that head did agree to be contented with the Declaration he now makes that he will not interfere in the Command of the Garrisons, the Letter is as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr· President and Governour &ca· Council of Fort St· George.

Gentlemen

It gives me concern to acquaint you that on comparing my Instructions with the propos'd Convention, I, as well as many of my Officers, am apprehensive I may incur his Majesty's Displeasure should I enter into such a Written Agreement. I could wish therefore, Gentlemen, you would rely on my Assurances that everything in my Power to promote the Company's Interest shall be my Study, & that I will no otherwise interfere in the Command of their Garrisons than I have hitherto done at this Place and St· David. I am Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant. John Adlercron.

Fort St· George
16th Decemr· 1754.

At a Committee

Present

Monday the 16th

Thomas Saunders Esqr· Governour, President.
George Pigot — Stringer Lawrence
Henry Powney — Robert Orme
Alexr· Wynch — William Perceval

Mr· Godeheu's Letter No. 58 being read & consider'd the following Remarks occur.

The Exchange of Prisoners so far from being forgot was acceded to on our part in the very beginning of the Suspension & the Proposal repeated since in several Letters from the President. As Mr· Godeheu now says it must depend on the prolongation of the Suspension, We imagine he will speak of it in his Answer on the Subject of the Truce propos'd.

With regard to the Obstacles the french Detachment under the Command of Mr· Laws are said to have met with, & their being surrounded with Troops, it is certain that our Party of Observation never went farther than Marmalon, and the Death of the two Seapoys at the entrance of Malraja's Tope is a Matter quite unknown to us.—It is agreed therefore that a Letter be wrote to Monsr· Godeheu to desire him to enquire into the Affair as We look upon it to be a Misrepresentation, And

Complaint having been made by Abdul Bob Cawn that the French since the Commencement of the Suspension have seiz'd above a hundred Villages in the Pergana of Wandewash and Captn· Gauppe advising that a French Officer lately arriv'd at Utremaloor sent forty Horse & fifty Seapoys to seize a Place call'd Connajour belonging to the Changalapet District, it is Agreed that a Representation be made hereof to Mr. Godeheu & that it be propos'd to him to appoint a Commissary on each Side to enquire into the Complaints of this Nature that have come from both Parties that a just Restitution may be made.

——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, 16TH. DECEMBER 1754.* ——— [16TH.]

Order'd also that a List of the Damages done by the French Detachment in the Changalapet &c^{a}· Districts amounting to Pag^{s}· 476 : 11 : 65. be inclos'd to M^{r}. Godeheu and Satisfaction demanded.

Letter from Major Heron read as follows.

To the Honble Thos· Saunders Esq^{R}· President & Governour and Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence.

Gentlemen

Having found Myself disappointed in the Supplies of Rice & Paddy for the Garrison of Trichinopoly, I was under an absolute Necessity of coming to this Place, to remind the King, & Monojee of their Promise of a plentiful Supply, In Consequence of my coming a Quantity is gone for Trichinopoly, & more will set out to Morrow, I've been put to great Difficulty to purchase Bags & get them made for the Paddy & Rice. The Bullocks which I order'd to be sent down from Camp being entirely without 'em. There is a Quantity of Rice at Cambaconum, & a Party of Seapoys with it, that will set out for Camp as soon as the Weather will Permit, which I hope will be in a Day or two, However, I've sent Quarter Master Black, (who is a diligent brisk Officer) to hasten them on as well as to see the Qualities & Quantities of the Stores, laying (as I am told) in many Places on the Road without any Person to look after them, Monojee has given Orders for the King's Share of Rice & Paddy in & about the Adjacent Villages to be sent off immediately, for which Purpose, I have a Compy of Seapoys & the Camp Colour Men under Quarter Master Black who is to see all the Rice & paddy as well as that purchased by Col^{l}· Lawrence, sent to Trichinopoly immediately, a Man came to me Yesterday, desiring to know what he was to do with three hundred Pagodas left in his hands by Colonel Lawrence, As I never heard any thing of this Money from M^{r}· Mansel or M^{r}· Newton I desir'd him to lay it out in Rice & Paddy which he'l immediately do.

The Violent Rains have made such terrible Havock in Trichinopoly that I've been oblig'd to employ all the Cooleys, Bricklayers & Carpenters that could be got for the speedy Repairs of the Walls of the Town, had it not been for that Accident the Garrison would have been by this Time fully supplied with Firewood, but I make no Doubt of getting every thing compleated in due Time.

I imagine you'll think it necessary to let me know as soon as Possible which is likely to succeed the present Cessation of Arms ; Peace or War, as some previous Steps might probably be taken to disappoint our Enemies. I shall trouble you no farther now, but beg you'l believe me to be, Genth. Your very humble & Obedient Servant.

Tanjore the 1st.
December 1754. Alex^{R}· Heron.

Capt. White is dead or in a dying Condition, I hope Captn· Lee who is an exceeding good Officer will be thought of, I have been oblig'd to leave him at Camp for more Reasons than one. I shall set out for Camp in 2 Hours.

In Answer to the above we have only to repeat our Orders concerning Provisions—with regard to Captn· White there is no Vacancy to be fill'd up, untill we have certain Accounts of his Death.

Receiv'd a Letter from Major Killpatrick as follows.

To the Honble Thos· Saunders Esq^{R}· President & Govern^{R}· &c^{A}· Council of Fort S^{T}· George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote to you the 19th Instant which I hope you will have receiv'd since, that I am honour'd with Yours of the 1st· In my last Letter, I acquainted you with the ruinous Situation the Fort was in, Occasion'd by the Violent Rains breaking down

[16TH·] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 16TH. DECEMR. 1754.*——

the Walls in many places & am sorry still to add that the Continuance of them since that Time, has made some other considerable Breaches, as the Weather now proves a little more Moderate, all the Assistance I could either procure in Garrison or from the Camp, are carefully employ'd in making the most necessary Repairs they can.

You do me a great deal of Honour Gentlemen, in so warmly expressing your Approbation of my Conduct and Zeal for the Service, you may be assur'd I shall chearfully embrace every Opportunity of doing the Honble Company all the Service in my Power, which I am convinc'd at the Same Time will be the surest Means of Improving that good Opinion you are pleas'd at present to entertain of me.

I shall most diligently on my part use my utmost Endeavours about what you so strenuously reccommend, in Regard to Provisions for this Fort & have the Honour to remain with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs, Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Trichinopoly
Novr· 24th· 1754. JAS· KILLPATRICK.

As all the Workmen that can be spar'd have already been sent to repair the Damages at Trichenopoly, it is only Necessary to repeat our Orders to Major Killpatrick to use his utmost Diligence in forwarding that Work.

Captain Howes writes from Arcot that Morarow had a Skirmish with the People of Tripoture & threatned the Places that he lost some Men & Horses but on receiving a present he march'd away, & arriv'd the 4th· Instant at Narsaporam, above a hundred Miles distant from Arcot.

Tervada Sasha Chella Chitty a Merchant Residing in Aureny having made Complaint of a Violence us'd towards him by Captn· Howes's Dubash as particularly recited in a Letter enter'd in the Country Correspondence No 418. Agreed that Captn· Howes be order'd to enquire into it and send his Dubash hither if he finds there is any foundation for the Complaint.

The French Prisoners being brought in from Changalapet to the Number of Sixty four. It is order'd, that a Patrole go constantly in the Cover'd Way &. that the Prison be examin'd twice a Day to prevent their escaping or committing any Disturbances.

Colonel John Adlercron intending to set out for Fort St· David in three or four Days in order to prepare every thing necessary for the Army to take the Field now represents to the Committee

That the Regiment should be remov'd from Cuddalore to the Garden House, the People having hitherto suffer'd very much by bad Quarters

That the Troops should be supplied with what Necessaries they may want before they take the Field; And,

That a Place should be appointed for the Arms &cA· that may be left in Garrison & a Carriage Order'd for the Colonel's Baggage.

Which the Committee concur in and it is Agreed that Orders be sent accordingly to the Deputy Governour and Council of Fort St David.

He desires also that the Hospital Expences for the King's Troops & the Batta of the Officers may be settled.

Agreed that the King's Officers have the same Batta as the Companys & that the Troops that may be sick or wounded be sent to the Company's Hospital and proper attendance prepar'd for them, but the Expence to be defrayed as usual by the King.

It being necessary to concert Measures in time with Col· Adlercron for the Operations of the ensuing Campaign, the Situation of Affairs is now taken into serious Consideration. As Trichinopoly is very secure against any attempt of the small Party of French remaining at Syringham It is the Opinion of the Committee

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 16TH. DECEMR. 1754.*—— [16ms.]

that our principal Objeet shou'd be to confine the War as much as Possible to the Districts in the Hands of the French in order to lessen their Revenues and secure the Nabobs. The first step to this End to be taken seems to be a Motion towards Pondicherry where the greatest part of the french Force is collected, By this Means it will be in our Power to attack them if a good Opportunity Offers, and to watch every Step they take. The King of Tanjore must be press'd to send his Horse, & the Nabob and Abdul Bob Cawn to Join with as many as they can get together; And as we well know the Advantage of the Alliance of the Moratta's to either Party, It is resolv'd to write to the Nabob & the King of Tanjore to endeavour to engage them on our Side, not so much to strengthen ourselves (for we had rather they would stay entirely out of the Province) as to prevent their joining the French to whom We are apprehensive they are inclin'd.

The taking of Chellembrum which Commands a large Tract of Country & the Communication between St. David & Devecotah would be of infinite Service but this attempt must depend on the Force we find against us, as must also the Detachment of a Body of our Troops to form an Opposition in the Mazulipatam Country.

Order'd that Letters be wrote immediately to the Nabob, the King of Tanjore and Abdul Bob Cawn conformably to the above Resolutions and one to Coll. Adlercron enlarging on the whole, also that Directions be sent to Major Heron, Mr. Hopkins, Major Killpatrick, Captn. Howes and Captn. Gauppe to follow any Orders they may receive from Coll. Adlercron, & that Mr. Starke furnish him with what Men & Warlike Stores he is able.

Hircaras from Pulicat bring an Account that the French Party under the Command of Mr. Laws march'd from thence to the Northward the 8th. instant.

Orderd that a Survey of the Company's Limits including the Districts of Poonemalee, and St. Thomé be taken, & that Lieutenant Hume & Mr. Conradi a Volunteer proceed on that Service, and make a Draught of the same to be transmitted to our Honble Masters.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu of this Date as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 59. 16.

Receiv'd the following Letters from Messrs. Palk & Vansittart at Pondicherry. 19.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Honble Sir

We arriv'd here early this Morning, and read over your Letters with Mr. Godeheu; he told us he could not give us his Sentiments clearly till he could collect them from the Translation & therefore desir'd us to be with him tomorrow in the Afternoon. From the Remarks he made in the Course of the Letter we could observe that he has an Inclination to the Truce, & would agree that it should be continued 'till Answers could be receiv'd from Europe, but he objected vehemently against the Stipulations you have made as they seem'd to be calculated to give the Country People a Notion of the large Concessions the French were to make and therefore dishonourable to his Nation. We need not trouble You with all the Arguments we made use of, they were founded on his own Position of an Equality, and We represented to him that the Articles were only a conciser Method of giving our

[19th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 19TH. DECEMR. 1754.*——

Superiours a Light into Affairs & therefore Nothing but an Improvement on his own Proposition of discussing our Pretensions by Letter. Undoubtedly We shall be able to write you something positive to morrow Night.

We have the Honour to be

Hoñ'ble Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Pondicherry
14th. Decemr. 1754.

ROBERT PALK.
HENRY VANSITTART.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.

Hoñble Sir

We had a long Conversation with Mr. Godeheu yesterday in which We fully discuss'd and explain'd your Letter to him, He had before form'd some Articles for a provisional Treaty but as many Alterations were made in them we did not receive the inclosed 'till late last Night, and with them a long Letter which We have not Time to Translate, We therefore send this by the Tappies, and intend to leave Pondicherry immediately, as Mr. Godeheu declares to us it is impossible for him to make any further Alteration, tho' from the regard he has to the publick Tranquillity he might not have scrupled to have sign'd every Article of yours, seeing that they are not definitive, but for Decency Sake he thought himself oblig'd to make some Demands on his part that his Superiours in Europe might not think him altogether blind to their Interest, though in a case of appearance only.

He objected to the Word Equality because as the Conditions are equal it is needless to make the Word a part of the Treaty & because some future Governours may put other Interpretations on it; and with regard to his most Christian Majesty, although he knows it to be his Intention he cannot consent that what he mention'd in his Letter to you should be made a part of the Treaty; but proposes since it seems agreeable that the first Article and Basis be that both Nations shall renounce for ever all possession of Moorish Governments and Dignities.

With Respect to the third Article he does not know if it may be requisite to enlarge the Districts of Pondicherry beyond those of Madrass, and proposes an Alternative for the over Ballance of Deve Cotah and Fort St. David against Carical; which alternative may be between Nisampatam and the River Gondecama, & on this Point he seems the more resolute because he thinks it would not be at all decent in him to consent to the giving up a large Tract of Country of fifty Leagues, without reserving even a possibility of holding two, We did not fail to represent to him that the Equality would be better settled by Provinces, but in this Point we found him immoveable; all we could do was to give a Place to both Propositions.

Instead of your having the Choice of Coringe, he insists that it be and remain neuter for the Security of the Freedom of the River.

All the rest of your Proposals are admitted without any Alteration or Reservation, except the Liberty of repairing old Forts in the present Possession of the two Nations.

Another Article was propos'd to be inserted that if before the Conclusion of the definitive Treaty in Europe, the French Company should fix on any point d'apuy, their Flag might be planted immediately to prevent the Place from falling into other hands We represented on this Subject that Nothing new could be possess'd in any manner 'till after the final Accomodation, or at least it must be stipulated that the French should at the same time evacuate all the rest of their Grants. At last this was dropp'd.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 19TH DECR. 1754.*—— [19TH.]

As We expect to be at Madrass by Thursday Morning, we need only add that We are with the greatest Respect, Honble Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Pondicherry
16th. Decemr. 1754.

ROBERT PALK.
HENRY VANSITTART.

Messrs. Palk & Vansittart arriv'd from Pondicherry and brought a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 15th. as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 60. with a project of a Conditional Treaty. 19.

Deliver'd the following Letter to Coll. John Adlercron agreeable to the Resolution of Committee the 16th. Instant. 20.

To COLONEL JOHN ADLERCRON ESQR. COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE LAND FORCES TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

The Time for the expiration of the Suspension of Arms drawing near, we judg'd it necessary to fix on a Plan for Military Operations should Hostilities again recommence. This we can only form from our own & the Enemy's present Situation, for when they make a Movement it will probably cause a variation & then Sir the dispositions proper to be made must be left entirely to your discretion.

The principal Points in view are the engaging their main Army the covering the Nabob's Districts by which a Revenue will arise to him and the distressing that of the Enemy which may carry with it a double Advantage of diminishing theirs and adding to his Support.

The Chief Powers of their Part that are more immediately concern'd in the Scene of Action are the King of Mysore, Morarow and the French.

The Dalloway or Mysore General by our last Advices is at Syringham, part of his Troops are in Winter Quarters but when collected are considerable, especially Horse, his present Situation will allow of his either continuing his Operation there detaching or marching his whole Army to join the French & one of the two last will We think take place.

Morarow enter'd into Engagements with the Nabob & King of Tanjore to quit his Alliance with the King of Mysore and the French and return to his own Country, but was very slow in executing them with the appearance of an Enemy more than a Friend, by tedious marches he quitted the Province plundering & ravaging the Country & raising Contributions, our latest Intelligence mention him 80 Miles or more beyond Arcot the fullfilling his Promises we esteem very dubious we rather are inclin'd to believe that influenced by Mysore Money he will again return, his Force is chiefly Horse, their Number at least 3000.

By the Reports of the Recruits receiv'd by the French this Season with those before on the Coast, their Force must be considerable. With Salabad Jing they have an Army, at Metchlepatam a Garrison, & a strong Detachment with Monsr. Bussy in the Rajahmundrum Province, but these are distant, their Strength in the Arcot Province is what the Nabob must oppose, at Syringham they are few. We dont hear of more than their Garrison at Karikall, Chellumbrum is defended tis said by about 60 Europeans to awe the adjacent Villages a few are in Vandewash & Gingee, a Fort of extent and Consequence by its Situation in the Arcot Country very proper for a Magazine and covering their Districts, & as such us'd & is occupied by 150 Men with a large Body of Seapoys, Allumparva a Seaport is in their Possession, at present not above 20 Men in it their main force is at Pondicherry part in Garrison part encamp'd not far from it—so that from hence must commence their Movements.

The Allies of the Nabob are the King of Tanjore & some Trichinopoly Polligars.

[20TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 20TH. DECEMBER 1754.*——

The Nabob has little Force with him most of his Troops are with his Brother Abdul Bob Cawn at Arcot they may be about 2000 Horse of which 1300 Good & as many Seapoys & Country Peons.

The King of Tanjore has We believe in pay from 2500 to 3000 Horse & as many Seapoys & Peons. in Bravery they are esteemd to rank next to the Morattas; so long as the Seat of War is at Trichinopoly we can prevail on him to join, but should it be distant from his Country it will be attended with difficulty.

The same Expectations may be had from the Trichenopoly Polligars.

The Map of the Country which you have Sir will shew you the Distance and Situation as the several Returns will inform you of our Garrison and Stores in Madrass, Arcot, Chingalapet S^{t}. David Devecotah and Trichinopoly as well as The Force under Command of Major Heron.

The several Officers respectively commanding have Directions to follow your Orders. Of the above Fort S^{t}. George & Major Heron's Command are only able to detach, The Rest can only defend their Forts and if no large Force appears cover the Country round them from hence we could send a small Party of 180 the utmost 200 Men and 400 Seapoys to oppose an Enemy not greatly superiour within the Circle of Covelon Chingalapet Conjeveram & Poonemalee—his Majesty's Troops with 400 Men and 1500 Seapoys of the Company's from [*sic*] our principal Strength at S^{t}· David. We are endeavouring to prevail on the King of Tanjore to Join us with part of his Horse and Abdul Bob Cawn to send his (about 1300) from Arcot the first depends entirely on the Motion of the King of Mysore, for the Tanjore Prince will not leave his Dominions defenceless, the latter we cannot depend on as We have but too often experienc'd the tedious delays of Abdul Bob Cawn both must be regarded as uncertain.

Maturely weighing the several Interests Strength and Dispositions as well our own as that of the Enemy 'tis our Opinion that his Majesty's Troops with those of the Companys under your Command do encamp at Trevendeporum ready to take the Field at the expiration of the Suspension when Major Heron may move towards the Enemy at Syringham which may prevent the Dalloway from parting with any considerable Force and probably induce the French to detach to his Assistance—these Movements of one Side or the other are the Springs from which the future Operations must flow and you Sir will then be able to judge whether able to attack the Enemy, whether to be further reinforc'd from Col^{l}· Heron & what other Measures to take.

The Districts in the Nabob's Possession lie chiefly within the Circle of Covelong, Chingalapet, Conjeveram and Arcot. Chittapet by its vicinity to Vandewash and Gingee is the most expos'd, 'tis impossible to succour it from hence.

If the Scene of Action lies near Pondicherry 'twill be in the middle of their Districts, and as you will be between the Enemy and Chellumbrum a Place that greatly annoys our Communication with Deve Cotah, and is surrounded by a fruitfull Country, the taking it and distressing the Adjacent Countrys of Bonagery & Vencatum Pettah will greatly hurt the Enemy, whether it can be affected or not is not easy now to determine, as it depends on the Measures they may take for its defence.

Notwithstanding these Preparations We are to acquaint you that We are treating with the French; We shall advise you immediately of the Issue of our Negociations.

We have now Sir given you our Sentim^{ts} We hope for the pleasure of hearing from You often assuring you that on our Parts Nothing will be wanting to promote the good of the Service. with our wishes for your Success, We have the Honour to be, Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servants, THO^{s}· SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HEN^{Y}· POWNEY—ROB^{T}· ORME—ALEX^{R}· WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCIVAL.

Fort S^{t}· George,
20th Decem^{r}· 1754.

——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, 20TH. DECEM^R. 1754.*—— [20TH.]

Sent the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQ^r.
DEPUTY GOVERNOUR OF FORT S^T. DAVID

Sir

As Col^l. Adlercron has the Command in Chief of all the Land Forces, you will comply as far as you can with the Demands he may make for Military Stores and put such of the Officers and Troops as he desires under his Orders. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants THO^S SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEX^R. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort S^t. George,
20 Decem^r. 1754.

Orders to the same Effect were likewise this Day dispatch'd to Major Heron, Major Kilpatrick, M^r. Hopkins, Captn Howes and Capt. Gauppe.

Sent the following Letters to the Deputy Governour and Council of Fort S^t. David, Major Heron & Major Killpatrick. 21.ST

To RICHARD STARKE ESQ^R. DEPUTY GOVERNOUR
&C^A. COUNCIL OF FORT S^T. DAVID.

Gentlemen

We have resolv'd that every thing be held in readiness for the Forces to take the Field at the expiration of the present Truce in case Hostilities should be again commenced, and as many things may be necessary to enable his Majesty's Troops to do it in a proper manner, on application to you from the proper Officers you will supply them on their giving Receipts with whatever they may want out of the Company's Stores for the use of the Army, amongst the rest one Tumbril in particular is to be allow'd to transport the Military Chest and Col^l. Adlercron's Baggage. Colonel Adlercron has represented to us that it will be necessary a Place should be set apart for the Reception of the spare Arms Accoutrements &c^a. that may be left behind when the Regiment takes the Field, you will therefore give Directions for preparing one fit for the purpose.

We find that many Inconveniences arise as well to the King's Officers as to the Company by his Majesty's Troops being quarter'd at Cuddalore, & to remove them We have acquainted Col^l. Adlercron that on his return to Fort S^t. David he shall have the Use of the Garden House, The several Officers may be accomodated in the Contiguous Apartments, & his Majesty's Troops are to be quarter'd at Mangecopang and the Barracks, The Deputy Governours Residence may be in the Fort House.

Col^l. Adlercron has in a Letter to the Board assur'd us of his readiness to do every Thing in his Power for the Company's Interest and promis'd not to interfere in the Command of their Garrisons, so that We hope a perfect Harmony will reign, We need not reccommend it to you to promote it.

Captain Gauppe at Chingalapet having collected together 240 Bullocks we have order'd him to send them to you under a small Escort of Seapoys. We are, Gentlemen, Your Affect^e. Friends THO^S. SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HEN^Y. POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—A^R. WYNCH—WILL^M. PERCEVAL.

Fort S^t. George
21st. Decem^r. 1754.

To ALEX^R. HERON ESQ^R. MAJOR of THE
HONBLE COMPYS FORCES ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 1st Instant.

[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 21ST. DECEMR. 1754.*——

As a plentiful Store of Provisions is of the utmost Consequence We cannot too often repeat it, Nothing but Continual Solicitations will do with the King of Tanjore, at the same Time endeavour to get as much as you can by Contract with the Merchants.

As We have sent you Duplicate of our Letter of the 16th Novr. Nothing but the Weather We think can have prevented the March of the Detachment, We are in hopes hourly to have Advice of their arrival at St. David.

We have wrote pressingly to Major Killpatrick concerning the Repairs of the Fort. you have been acquainted that the Suspension subsists till the 11th. January, at present 'tis impossible to say whether it will continue; when We are on any Certainly [*sic*] you may depend on being advis'd of it; Let this be as it will 'tis our Business to prepare for War, please to write of the Strength and Disposition of the Enemy. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants. Thos. Saunders—George Pigot—Stringer Lawrence—Henry Powney—Robert Orme—Alexr. Wynch—William Perceval.

Fort St. George
21st. Decemr. 1754.

To Major Killpatrick

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 24th Ultimo it is with Concern We observe the Damages occasion'd by the heavy Rains be as expeditious as possible in the Repairs as the Suspension will soon expire. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants Thos. Saunders—Geo. Pigot—S. Lawrence—Henr. Powney—Robert Orme—Alexr. Wynch—William Perceval.

Fort St. George
21st. Decemr. 1754.

At a Committee

Present

Sunday the 22.

Thomas Saunders Esqr. Governr. President	
George Pigot	Stringer Lawrence
Henry Powney	Robert Orme
Alexr. Wynch	William Perceval

The Members of the Committee having previously perus'd Mr. Godeheu's Letter No. 60 with the project of a Conditional Treaty now meet finally to deliberate whether a Truce ought to be concluded or not on the Articles therein contain'd. The Alterations made and insisted on by Mr. Godeheu do not clash with the Company's Instructions as it is still stipulated that if the French keep Mazulipatam the English shall have Divy and the principal Objects of the Truce, The Cessation of Hostilities and an entire Stop to any further Acquisitions is preserv'd in its full force. The Company themselves do not require any immediate Cessions or Evacuations, their design therefore in the Provisional Treaty seems to be fully answer'd. In the Articles there is an Equality pointed out after differt. ways, the final Discussion of which is referr'd to Europe and as no Hostilities can be committed untill Answers are receiv'd from thence, Affairs will not undergo any Alteration, and our Hon'ble Masters will have an Opportunity of judging with Certainty what to accept or reject without hoping or fearing any thing from the intermediate Fortune of War. But the Point to be consider'd is what Advantages might be reasonably expected from a Continuation of the War. These Advantages must consist in the Reduction of the Places now in Possession of the French whereby to decrease their Revenues and Augment the Nabobs; Chingee is the Bulwark of almost all they have in their Hands in the

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 22D. DECEMR. 1754.*—— [22d.]

Arcot Country, Can We hope to reduce it? It is well known to be a Place of such Strength that while there is an Army in the Field against us, the Attempt would be dangerous and Vain. Have We a Prospect of dispossessing them by a War of their Northward Grants? The Chance seems to be against us; They have a large European Force there and possession of the strong Holds; Our Troops are to be transported & Alliances to be form'd before any Step can be taken and if after our Force was divided a French Fleet should arrive with more Men which it is not unreasonable to expect we should run a great Risque of losing every thing this way. Besides as our Hon'ble Masters themselves write they have better Hopes than ever of an Accomodation we may expect soon to receive news of a definitive Agreement in which Case all the Expences of the War would be thrown away and any Advantages we might have gain'd would prove useless.

The heavy additional Charge of the King's Troops in the Field would make the Expence insupportable for the whole must be advanc'd by the Company and in a Time of Hostilities very inconsiderable Revenues would be collected to reimburse them.

By the Truce Trichinopoly will be secur'd with all the other Possessions of the Nabob which are by far the largest Share of the Arcot Province. The Revenues of these Countries will be paid towards the Discharge of his Debt to the Company. It is certain the French will also collect largely from their Northward Possessions and this We should find it very difficult to hinder by a War.

The King of Mysore will find himself oblig'd to decamp, both Parties being bound to oppose him if he commits any Hostilities; The Province will be secur'd from the Incursions of the Morattas and all common Enemies, which cannot but have a good Effect on Trade.

Upon all these Considerations maturely weigh'd the Committee are unanimously of Opinion that the Truce is for the Advantage of the Company and should be concluded whereupon the President is desir'd to summon a Council to meet tomorrow Morning that the Articles may be laid before them for their Approbation, Our Hon'ble Masters directing that no such Treaty shall be concluded without their Concurrence.

The following Remarks on the Articles 'though they do not regard the main Object of the Treaty, will be necessary for the Information of our Hon'ble Masters and give them some Light in their definitive Conferences.

That although it is stipulated We shall hold only one of the two Places, Suncrapollam or Nellepelle, yet in Case the first should be chosen a Liberty must be reserv'd of making a Washing Godown at the Latter, there being no Conveniences for curing the Cloth at Suncrapollam.

That although an Equality of Districts is not stipulated expressly in every Article, yet that being the Basis of the Treaty it must be so understood.

Order'd that a Letter be prepar'd to be sent Mr. Godeheu with the Articles sign'd wherein it is agreed to mention the foregoing Remarks and that although the Prohibition of building new Forts stipulated in the 9th Article does not particularly mention those begun by the French at Mazulipatam & Divy yet that We understand it to entend to prevent their being carried on any further.

Agreed also that the Exchange of Prisoners be again propos'd and that Mr. Godeheu be inform'd that whatever Letters he pleases shall be forwarded on our Ship, Messrs. Palk & Vansittart having inform'd the President that he was desirous of such Permission.

As Coll. Adlercron may perhaps think it necessary to encamp the Troops as soon as he arrives at Fort St. David which if the Truce is concluded will be only a useless expence; It is Agreed that Mr. Godeheu be desir'd to inform Mr. Starke as soon as he has sign'd the Treaty and, that Mr. Starke be directed immediately thereupon to acquaint Colonel Adlercron that any Encampment will be unnecessary.

[22D:] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 22D. DECEMBER 1754.*——

Receiv'd the following Letter from Major Heron.

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esqr. and
Gentlemn. of Committee of Correspondence.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Favours of the 1st. and 13th. of November; I have paid a particular attention to the Affair of Provisions for Trichinopoly, my Journey to Tanjore I hope will have a good Effect, The Merchants seem determin'd to fulfill their Contracts, and I us'd all the Arguments possible with the King to induce him to comply with his Promises; As the wet Season is now over, We may soon expect large Supplys, having receiv'd certain Accounts of some being sent off from different Parts of the Country, and I make no doubt of erecting the Necessary Magazeens by the end of the Suspension; without the March of these Troops for the Coast should make some Alteration in the Disposition of the King of Tanjore.

All the Accounts We have lately receiv'd from Syringham confirm our former ones, that they have made no Alteration either in the Disposition or Number of the French Forces left on the Island; The Mysore Horse encamp'd on the Banks of the Caleroon, are reported not to exceed 1500 many of them following the former Detatchmts. sent towards Caroor, which I acquainted you with the 15th of November.

I shall observe your Orders, in not offering any Reward to tempt the French Troops to desert, the Germans who came over to us, are all enter'd in our Service, and the French sent on to St. David; the first opportunity I will make it known to our Deserters, that they may be assur'd of a full Pardon if they will return: The Germans not chusing to engage to serve the Company longer than three Years I thought 3 Pagodas a Man fully sufficient which has been paid them on signing an Obligation to serve the Company three Years in India, they were very well satisfied with it.

Agreeable to your Letter of the 16th. Novr. I shall regularly send Monthly Returns to Coll. Adlercron; as you have wrote to him for proper Powers for holding General Courts Martial, I shall not make use of the Power he granted me till the Commission arrives; I hope I shall not have much Occasion for it, as all the Men seem well Dispos'd both to the Service and their Officers.

As the weather is now favourable, in Consequence of your Orders, I have detach'd 400 Military, and 1500 Seapoys under the Command of Captn. Forbes, returns of which I now enclose you, they began their March this Morning, and according to the design'd Rout, will reach Deve Cotah in 8 Days, should no unforeseen Accident happen, I have order'd the commanding Officer to apply to Govr. Starke for Orders on his Arrival at St. David, and at the same Time give the proper Returns to Coll. Adlercron; I thought it for the good of the Service that the Detachment should be form'd by seperate Company's, rather than by a Draught from the whole; Ensign Black who belongs to Capn. Forbes Company, is so particularly usefull to me, in the Affair of Provisions for the Garrison, that I could not well spare him at present, I have therefore order'd another Officer in his Room, but purpose sending the other down as soon as possible; We could only spare one of our Surgeons to go with this Command, and Captn. Forbes's representing it to me, that it was not sufficient for so large a Body of Men; at his Request I appointed Mr. Walsh who came out as Chief Mate to the King's Troops, and now a Volunteer in the Company's Service to act as Assistant to them till farther Orders.

Complaints are still made to me, from the Nabob as well as the King of Tanjore and Tondiman of the irregularities committed by Mysore Troops in the Madura Country, I have made repeated Remonstrances to the French Commanding Officer in Syringham, whose Answr. is neither the French or King of Mysore have any People in the Madura Country, that Coke Saib is not in their Service or acting under their Orders, and that if he continued to commit any more disorders, He would jointly with the English send a Party, to oblige him to desist, in equal Proportion as should be agreed on.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 22D. DECEMBER 1754.*—— [22D.]

The Nabob has frequently express'd the great Difficulties he was under about his Seapoys, and his Inability of getting Money to pay them their Pay, which I believe were very true, therefore as you approve of it, shall order them to be put on the Company's Pay, for the Time to come.

Some time past our Coolies have been employ'd in assisting the Workmen who are repairing the Walls of Trichinopoly, which has put us under a Necessity of neglecting the Magazeen of Firewood as the other was the more material Business, I have likewise assisted Major Killpatrick with all the Lascars and Workmen that could be possibly spar'd from the Train of Artillery.

As you do not approve of the new Germans being form'd into a Company by themselves, I should still give it as my Opinion that they would be much happier kept together, and that they should either be given to the Swiss Companys on the Coast, or to either of those from Bombay or Bengall, they desire it and I am well assur'd would be much discontented to be divided among the Whole Companys in Camp, the 7, of them left Sick in the Hospital are under the Care of Captn. Ziegler, so that when a Division is made, those may be look'd on as a part for him.

A Party of the Nabobs Horse, to the Number of about 250 Yesterday without acquainting me of, it march'd away and is reported towards the Arcot Country, I sent into the Nabob to know the Reason of it, who says that he was equally ignorant of their Motions, but imagines they went away, as he had not Money where withall to pay them their Demands.

In the Detachment of Seapoys I have sent down the 300 new recruits, that were intended to compleat the Companys here, as they had not a Sufficient Number of Arms, and they can easier get them at St. David, with those few spare Arms I have here shall compleat the Companies to their Establishment as far as there are Arms sufficient for them. I am, Hoñble Sir Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Woriore
6th. Decr. 1754. ALEXR. HERON.

P.S. We are in great want of Drums there are only 6 in Camp, and 4 Times that Numbers of Drum Beaters.

With regard to the German Deserters the Committee are of Opinion that the Swiss Companies should be first compleated and the rest of them divided among the other Companies and that 5 Pags. the Customary Gratuity for enlisting be allow'd them Order'd that Directions be sent accordingly to Major Heron.

Letter from Major Killpatrick as follows.

TO THE HOÑBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR. PRESIDENT
AND GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Colonel Heron has acquainted me with a Paragraph relating to the Nabob's Seapoys which surprises me a good deal, as I never represented the Occasion to you. It was Gentlemen your Directions to me to advise you Constantly in all Affairs of the Garrison myself; this I have strictly kept up to, but that of the Seapoys, I thought I cou'd never in Justice meddle with, as it would be entailing a heavy expence on You, which I could always have got discharg'd as I have hitherto by the Nabob, but is now out of my Power he being inform'd of your Intentions.

As a Representation of this Affair and indeed all others from a Place that you charge me with the Command of, should come solely from me; I could not but ask Coll. Heron whether he ever wrote to you of it he assures me he did not; I hope then you will allow that that Priviledge in Consequence be my Right. It was from

[22D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 22D. DECEMR. 1754.*——

a little uneasiness on this Point which every Soldier prizes as his Duty & would not have encroach'd on, that has made me trouble you with this Letter; you will always find me (be assurd) ready to obey your Orders and Commands with the greatest Chearfullness, & glad of Opportunities to prove how respectfully I am Hon'ble Sir & Sirs, Your most Obedient and most humble Servant. JAMES KILLPATRICK.

Trichinopoly
6th. Decemr. 1754.

The Information concerning the Seapoys came from Coll. Lawrence to which certainly no Objection can be made. Agreed that Major Killpatrick be advis'd thereof in Answr. to his Letter.

A Letter from Mr. Lavernie, a French Officer of Mr. Law's Detachment dated from Puliacat read, demanding two German Deserters, who carried off a hand Scrutoire with some Papers and Money, to be deliver'd up as Robbers—Enquiry having been hereupon made among all the German Deserters that came hither, No appearance of such a Theft was discover'd, at the same Time it is certain that a Scrutoire could not be brought into this Garrison by a Deserter without its being taken Notice of; It is probable therefore that they have taken another Rout.

A Letter from Sanawasa Chery Renter of Tripoty read inclosing his Account Current and a Bill of Exchange for Pagodas four thousand (4000) in full of the Kist of this Year. The Bill is deliver'd to the Commissary that he may receive the Money.

THOS. SAUNDERS.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

MONDAY THE 23D.

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT

GEO: PIGOT—	S. LAWRENCE—	CHAS. BODDAM
HENY. POWNEY—	ROBT. ORME—	ALEXR. WYNCH
WM. PERCIVAL—	JOHN SMITH—	CHAS. BOURCHIER.

The President acquaints the Board that the Committee for Affairs of Country Government &ca. having negociated with Mr. Godeheu concerning the Means of restors. Peace and Tranquility on this Coast after many Letters had pass'd on the Subject in which some Difficulties were continually started, it was thought adviseable to send the Revd. Mr. Robert Palk and Mr. Henry Vansittart to discourse privately with Mr. Godeheu as the readiest Way to obviate any further Objections that might otherwise arise, which had been attended with this Good Effect that Mr. Godeheu had agreed to all the material Articles propos'd by the Committee for a provisional Treaty, a Copy whereof follows.

Articles of a provisional Treaty and Truce concluded and agreed on between Us Thomas Saunders Esqr. President for the Honourable English East India Company on the Coasts of Choromandel and Orixa, Governour of Fort St. George &ca. and Charles Robert Godeheu Esqr. Commissary for his most Christian Majesty and Governour General of all the French Settlements in India, China and on the Coast of Africa, and Director General of the French East India Company.

Article 1st.

The two Companys renounce for ever all Moorish Governments & Dignity.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 22D. DECEMR. 1754.* —— [22D.]

Article 2d.

In the Tanjore Country, the English shall possess Devecotah, the French Karical, each with their present Districts.

Article 3d.

Along the Coast of Choromandel the English shall possess Fort St. George and Fort St. David the Districts of which are to be specified in the definitive Treaty.

The French shall keep Pondicherry with the Districts also to be specified.

The French shall form a limited Settlement to be chosen between Nizampatam & the River of Gondecama exclusively as an Equivalent for the Difference there is between Deve Cotah and Fort St. David together against Karical.

Or else

The Districts of Pondicherry shall be made equal to those of Fort St. George and Fort St. David together and in this Case the French shall abandon Point d'apuy propos'd above.

The Alternative shall be left to the Discussion of the two Companies.

Article 4th.

Mazulipatam & Divy shall be neuter, leaving to the two Companies the Choice of making a Partition.

Each Nation may have their House for Commerce at Mazulipatam if that Town remains neuter. If the French reserve the Possession of Mazulipatam, Divy shall be deliver'd to the English; and if the French keep Divy, the English shall have Mazulipatam.

Article 5th.

The River of Narsapore shall be free, The French shall have a Settlement there, and the English shall have the Choice of carrying theirs upon the same River, or keeping Bandarmalanka, but they shall possess only one of the two. The Districts shall be equal between the two Nations.

Article 6th.

That the Enterance [*sic*] of Ingeram River may be free, neither the English nor the French shall possess the Islands of Coringé and Yellacatippa. The last shall settle their Factory at Yanam with its Districts and the English shall chuse either Nellepille or Sucrapollam.

Article 7th.

In the Chikakul Country the English having Vizagapatam, the French may settle a Factory wherever they please to the Southward of Pondemarka or the Northward of Bimlepatam whether at Ganjam or Mafousbender.

Article 8th.

These Conditions accepted, although they are not to be a Law for the Definitive Treaty in Europe, there shall be a Truce between the two Nations and their Allies untill the Receipt in India of Answers to the present Proposals, which Answers We engage *Bona fide* to communicate to each other as soon as they arrive by the Ships of either Nation. We do further oblige ourselves to force our Allies to observe the Stipulations made for the Accomplishment of the Truce concluded by Virtue of the present provisional Treaty, and whoever shall dare to infringe them shall be reputed Common Enemies and reduc'd to good Order by the Force of Arms.

[22D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 22D. DECEMBER 1754.*——

Article 9th.

During the Truce neither of the two Nations shall procure any new Grant or Cession nor build any new Forts for the Security of new Establishments. It shall only be Lawful to rebuild & repair the Fortifications now subsisting in the Establishments which are in their Hands, to prevent their total Ruin.

Article 10th.

Untill the Receipt of Answers to the present Proposals which shall be sent to Europe by the first Ships to be referr'd to the final Decision of the two Companies under the Approbation of the two Monarchs, the two Nations shall not proceed to any Cession Retrocession or Evacuation of what they now Possess.

Article 11th.

With regard to the Indemnification the two Nations may expect for the Expence of the War, It shall be amicably adjusted in the Definitive Treaty.

Article 12th.

All Common Enemies of both Nations, or the particular Enemies of either Nation who shall come to trouble the Tranquillity that is to reign in this Country shall be repuls'd by Force of Arms of the two Nations.

Done at Fort St. George the 23d. Day of December 1754.

THOS. SAUNDERS.

Agreed that a Provisional Treaty be concluded with Mr. Godeheu on the foregoing Terms & the President is hereby empower'd to sign the same.

Draught of a Letter from the President to Mr. Godeheu is also laid before the Board containing some Observations on the Treaty and proposing an Amendment in several of the Articles which is approv'd but as the propos'd Alterations do not affect the principal Points it is Agreed that the Execution of the Treaty be not deferr'd on that Account.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

23D. Sent a Letter from the President to Monsr. Godeheu of this Date, as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 61. with the foregoing Articles of a Provisional
,, Treaty sign'd on our Part.

Sent the following Letter to Richd. Starke Esqr. agreeable to Yesterday's Resolution.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNR. OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

As We have Reason to believe a Truce with the French will be concluded we have desir'd Monsr. Godeheu immediately to write you when he has sign'd the Treaty. In such Case you will directly acquaint Coll. Adlercron that you are authoris'd by us to make the same known to him and that the Encampment will then be unnecessary. This you will keep Secret till you Receive Intelligence from Monsr.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 23D. DECEMR. 1754.*—— [23D.]

Godeheu of the Truce being concluded. We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants THOS. SAUNDERS—GEO. PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—AR. WYNCH—WM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
23d. Decemr. 1754.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 23d. Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondence No 62.

Arriv'd Messrs. Clouet and Tobin from Pondicherry who brought two Letters from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 25th. & 26th. Instant enterd No. 63 & 64. With a provisional Treaty of Truce sign'd by Mr. Godeheu. 29TH.

AT A CONSULTATION

Present

THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR. GOVERNR. PRESIDENT
GEO: PIGOT—S. LAWRENCE—CHARLES BODDAM
HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—
WILLM. PERCEVAL—JOHN SMITH—CHAS. BOURCHIER
AR. WYNCH absent. TUESDAY THE 31ST.

The President lays before the Board two Letters from Mr. Godeheu, the one accompanying the Articles of a Truce, and a Conditional Treaty, and the other serving to introduce Messrs. Clouet and Tobin as private Gentlemen having some Affairs to transact here who (he says) will explain any Particulars that may require it in the said Articles.

Some little Alterations being made in the Articles sent Mr. Godeheu by the further explanation of some Particulars, the Addition of those containd in the Presidents last Letter, and the seperating the Treaty into two one containing the Articles of a Provisional Treaty and the other the Articles of a Truce & the same being now read and consider'd the Board do unanimously Agree to accept the Conditions and the President is empower'd to sign the same.

The Articles are as follow on the other Side.

Agreed that the two following Articles be propos'd to Mr. Godeheu to be added to the Treaty of Truce and that they be wrote on a seperate Sheet of Paper and sign'd by the President.

The Additional Articles also follow.

Agreed that the Truce be proclaim'd tomorrow, at the head of the Military to commence the 11th. of January & continue in force untill Answers are receiv'd from Europe.

Agreed, that Notice of the Truce be given to all our Settlemen ts and Garrisons on the Coast.

As Mr. Godeheu desires to send Advices to Europe by our Ship now bound thither: Agreed that the Norfolk be detain'd a few Days, & that she be dispatch'd as soon as Mr. Godeheu's Answer be receiv'd with his Letter to Europe.

THOS. SAUNDERS.
GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
JOHN SMITH.
CHAS. BOURCHIER.

[31st.] [——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEMR. 1754.*——]

Articles of a Provisional Treaty concluded and Agreed on between Us Thomas Saunders Esqr. President for the Honourable English Company on the Coasts of Choromandel and Orixa, Governour of Fort St. George &ca. and Charles Robert Godeheu Esqr. Commissary for his most Christian Majesty, Commander General of all the Settlements of the French Company on both Sides the Cape of Good Hope and at China, President of all the Councils there Establish'd and Director General of the India Company of France.

Art. 1st.

The two Companies English and Frenǫh shall renounce for ever all Moorish Government and Dignity and shall never interfere in any Difference that may arise between the Princes of the Country.

All Places except those which shall be stipulated in the definitive Treaty to remain in the Possession of the two aforesaid Nations, French and English shall be deliver'd up to the Moors.

Art. 2d.

In the Tanjore Country the English shall possess Devecotah and the French Karical, Each with their present Districts.

Art. 3d.

On the Choromandel Coast the French shall possess Pondicherry the Districts of which are to be specefied [*sic*] in the definitive Treaty. The English shall possess Fort St. George and Fort St. David with the Districts likewise to be specified.

The French shall form a limited Settlement the Situation of which shall be chosen between Nizampatam and the River of Gondecama exclusively, as an Equivalent for the Difference there is between Deve Cotah and Fort St. David together compar'd with. Karical.

Or Else

The Districts of Pondicherry shall be made equal to those of Fort St. George and Fort St. David together, and in this Case the French shall abandon the *Point d'appuy* propos'd above.

The Alternative shall be left to the Determination of the two Companies.

Articles du Traittè Conditionnel conclû et arrêtè entre nous Thomas Saunders Ecuyer et Prèsident pour l'honorable Compagnie Angloise sur les Côtes de Coromandel et d'Orixa Governeur du Fort St. George &ca. et Charles Robert Godeheu Ecuyer, Commissaire pour sa Majestè tres Chrêtienne, Commandant Gènèral de tous les Etablissements de la Companie françoise tant en deçà qùau dela du Cap de bonne Espèrance, et a la Chine, Prèsident de tous les Conseils Y établis, Directeur Gènèral de la Compagnie des Indes de France.

Art. 1er.

Les deux Companies Angloise et Françoise renonceront à jamais à tout Gouvernement et Dignités Maures, et ne se mêleront jamais dans tous les différents qui pourroient survenir entre les Princes du Païs—Toutes Places, excepté celles qui seront denommées dans le Traitté définitif pour rester en la Possession de Chacune des dittes deux Nations françoise et Angloise, seront renduës aux Maures.

Art. 2e.

Dans le Païs du Tanjaour, les Anglois possèderont Divycotté, et les Francois KareiKal, chacun avec leur Districts presents.

Art. 3e.

Sur la Côte Coromandel les François posséderont Pondicherry dont les Districts doivent être spécifies dans le Traitté defi[nitif] Les Anglois possèderont le Fort St. [George et] le Fort St. David avec les Dist[ricts qui] doivent pareillement être [specifiés.]

Les François formeront un[Etablissement] limité dont le lieu sera choi[si entre] [Ni]zzampatam et la Riviere de Gonde Kama exclusivement comme un èquivalent de la diffèrence des Possessions de Divycottè et du Fort St. David joints ensemble avec KareiKal.

Ou bien

Les Districts de Pondicherry seront rendusègaux avec ceux du Fort St. George et du Fort St. David ensemble, et en ce Cas les Francois abandonneront le Point d'appuy proposè cy dessus.

L'Alternatif sera laissé à la dècision des deux Compagnies.

[——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST DECEMR. 1754.*——] [31st]

Art. 4th.

Mazulipatam and Divy shall be Neuter leaving to the two Companies the Choice of making a Partition.

Each Nation shall have a House for Commerce at Mazulipatam, with an equal Number of Soldiers to guard it; in case this Town should remain Neuter, Divy shall be deliver'd to the English if the French reserve Mazulipatam, and if the French keep Divy, the English shall have Mazulipatam; In these two last Cases equal Districts shall be annex'd to the Possessions.

Art. 5th.

The Navigation of Narsapore River shall be free, the English may carry their Settlement upon the Banks of the said River or keep Bandermalanka but they shall possess only one of those [two] Places the French shall have a [Settle]-ment on the same River. The [Districts] shall be equal between the [two Nations.]

6th.

[The Ent'rance] of Ingeram River shall [be free, neither] the French nor the English shall possess the Islands of Coringé and Yellacatipa, The English shall have their Factory at Suncrapollam with its Districts, and a Warehouse at Nellepelly the Fortifications of which shall be razed.

The French shall have their Factory at Yanam with Districts equal to those of Sucrapollam, and they shall be at Liberty to have a Warehouse on the *Terrâ firmâ* in case they judge it necessary for the Convenience and Ease of their Trading Business.

Art. 7th.

In the Chickacul Country as the English have Vizagapatam, The French may settle a Factory where they please to the Southward of Pondemarka or the Northward of Bimlepatam whether at Ganjam or Mafousbender; On an Equality with Vizagapatam.

Art. 8th.

These Conditions accepted on both Sides, although they are not to be a Law for a Definitive Treaty in Europe they

Art. 4e.

Mazulipatam et Divy seront neutres, laissant aux deux Compagnies le Choix de les partager.

Chaque Nation aura une Maison pour leurs Affaires à Mazulipatam avec un Nombre ègal de Soldats pour la garder au cas que cette Ville soit decidèe neutre. On remettra Divy aux Anglois, Si les François Se rèservoient Mazulipatam: et Si les François gardent Divy, les Anglois auront Mazulipatam; dans ces deux derniers Cas, ces Possessions seront annèxèes de Districts ègaux.

Art. 5e.

La Navigation de la Riviere de Narzapour sera libre. Les Anglois pourront porter leur Établissement sur les Bords de cette Riviere ou garder Bandermalanka, mais ils ne possèderont qu'un de ces deux Endroits. Les François auront un Établissement sur cette meme Riviere. les Districts seront ègaux pour les deux Nations.

Art. 6e.

L'entrèe de la Riviere d'Ingeram sera libre. n'y les Francois n'y les Anglois n'occuperont les Isles de Coringè et d'Yellacatipa. les Anglois auront leur Comptoir à Suncrapollam avec ses Districts et un Magazin à Nellepelly dont les Fortifications seront razèes.

Les François auront leur Comptoir à Yanaon avec ses Districts ègaux à ceux de Suncrapollam, et il leur sera libre d'avoir sur la Terme [*sic*] ferme un Magazin en cas quils se jugent nècessaire pour la Commoditè et la facilitè de leurs Opèrations de Commerce.

Art. 7e.

Dans le Païs de Chikakol les Anglois ayant Visiagapatam, les François pourront etablir un Comptoir où bon leur semblera au Sud de Pondemarka ou au Nord de Bimelipatam soit à Ganjam ou à Mafousbander sur un pied d'ègalitè avec Viziagapatam.

Art. 8e.

Ces Conditions recuës depart et d'autre, quoiqu'elle ne doivent pas faire loy pour un traittè dèfinitif en Europe, cependant

[31st.] [———*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEMR. 1754.*———]

shall nevertheless produce a Truce between the two Nations and their Allies untill news is receiv'd in India of the Answers made in Europe concerning this Agreement which Answers We promise *Bonâ fide* to communicate to each other as soon as they shall be arriv'd by the Ships of either Nation.

Art. 9th.

Neither Nation shall be allowed to procure during the Truce any new Grant or Cession or to build Forts for the Defence of new Establishments, It shall only be lawful to Rebuild and Repair the Fortifications now subsisting in the Establishments they possess at this Time in order to prevent their entire Ruin.

Art 10th.

Untill the Arrival of Answers from Europe to these Articles which shall be transmitted thither by the first Ships to be dispatched, to be submitted to the Decision of the two Companies under the Pleasure and Approbation of the two Crowns, the two Nations shall not proceed to any Cession, Retrocession or Evacuation of what they now possess, Every thing being to remain on the footing of *uti possidetis*.

Art. 11th.

With regard to the Indemnification the two Nations may expect for the Expences of the War, This Article shall be amicably adjusted in the Definitive Treaty.

Done at Fort St. George the thirty first Day of December One Thousand, Seven hundred and fifty four.

Thos. Saunders.

L. S.

elles auront pour Effet une Trève entre les deux Nations et leurs Alliès, jusqu'à ce qu'on soit instruit dans L'Inde des Rèponses faites d'Europe touchant cet accord : lesquelles Rèponses nous promettons *bonâ fide* de nous entrecommuniquer dèsquelles seront arrivèes par les Vaisseaux de l'une ou l'autre Nation.

Art. 9e.

It sera deffendu aux deux Nations d'acquèrir pendant la Trève aucune nouvelle concession ou cession, de bâtir des Forts pour la dèfense de nouveaux Ètablissements. il sera seulement Permis de rèèdiffier et rèparer les Fortifications actuellement sur Pied dans les Etablissements qu'ils possedent maintenant, et cela pour empêcher leur Ruine entiere.

Art. 10e.

Jusq'uà l'arrivèe des Rèponses d' Europe sur ces Articles lesquels y seront envoyès par les Premieres Vaisseaux à partir, pour y être Soumis à la Dècision des deux Compagnies sous le bon plaisir et l'aprobation des deux Couronnes, les deux Nations ne procèderont point à aucune Cession, Rètrocession ou Evacuation dece qu'elles possèdent maintenant: toutes Choses devant demeurer dans les Termes *uti possidetis*.

Art. 11e.

Quant aux dèdommagements que les deux Nations pourroient prètendre pour les frais de la Guerre, cet Article sera terminè à l'amiable dans le Traittè dèfinitif.

Fait á Pondichery le vingt Sixieme Jour de Dècembre mil sept cent cinquante quatre.

Godeheu.

L. S.

[——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEMR. 1754.*——] [31st.]

Articles and Stipulations of a Truce concluded between us Thomas Saunders Esqr. President for the Honourable English Company on the Coasts of Choromandel and Orixa, Governour of Fort St. George &ca. and Charles Robert Godeheu Esqr. Commissary for his most Christian Majesty, Commander General of all the Settlements of the French Company on both Sides the Cape of Good Hope and at China, President of all the Councils there established, Director General of the India Company of France in Virtue of a Provisional Treaty which We have sign'd the same Day to promote the Re-establishment of Tranquillity in this part of India.

Articles, et Conventions d'une Treve conclüe entre nous Thomas Saunders, Ecuyer, et President pour l' honorable Compagnie Angloise sur les Cotes de Coromandel et D'Orixa, Gouvernour de Fort St. Georges &ca, et Charles Robert Godeheu Ecuyer Commissaire pour sa Majestè tres chrestienne, Commandant Gènèral de tous les Etablissements de la Compagnie françoise tant en deça qu'au dela du Cap de bonne Esperance et a la Chine, President de tous les Conseils y etablis Directeur Gènèral de la Compagn[ie] des Indes de France, en vertu d'un Traitte Conditionnel que nous avons signé le même Jour pour parvenir a retablir la Tranquilitè dans cette partie de L'Inde.

Article 1st.

To take Place on the 11th. January 1755. the Day of the Expiration of the Suspension of Arms proclaimd the 11th. October 1754., all Hostilities shall cease between the English and French.

Artcle 1er.

A compter du 11 Janvier 1755, Jour de l'expiration de la Suspension d' Armes proclamèe le 11e. Octobre de 1754, tout Acte d'hostilitè cessera entre les Anglois et les Francois.

Art. 2d.

During this Truce which shall be in Force untill We are informed in India of the Answers made in Europe concerning the said Provisional Treaty the Troops of the two Nations French and English shall not act against each other either as Principals or Auxiliaries.

Art. 2e.

Pendant la durèe de cette Treve qui aura lieu jusqu'a ce qu'on ne soit instruit dans L'Inde des Reponses faittes d' Europe touchant le dit Traittè conditionnel, les Troupes des deux Nations Francoise, et Angloise n' agiront les unes contre les autres ny Commes parties principalles, n'y comme Auxiliaires.

Art. 3d.

The two Nations English and French engage to oblige their Allies to observe all that is stipulated for the Accomplishment of the Truce by Vertue of the Treaty and whoever shall dare to infringe it shall be reputed a common Enemy, and shall be reduced to good Order by the Force of Arms.

Art. 3e.

Les deux Nations Angloise, et Francoise S' engagent a obliger leurs Alliès a observer tout cequi est stipulè pour l' accomplissement de la Treve, en vertu du Traittè, et quiconque osera l'enfraindre sera reputè l'Ennemy commun, et sera forcè par la voye des Armes a rentrer dans le bon Ordre.

Art 4th.

If either of the two Nations French or English or their Auxiliary Troops or Allies shall commit any Act of Hostility, possess themselves of any Place or any one shall cause any Damage to another during the said Truce; both oblige themselves to make Reparation proportionable to the Damage and to the entire Restitution of whatever shall be taken.

Art. 4e.

Si aucune des deux Nations Francoise et Angloise, ou leurs Troupes auxiliaires, ou Alliès commettoit quelque Acte d'hostilitè, S'emperoit de quelque Place, ou que l'une causat quelque Domage à l'autre pendant la ditte Treve, toutes deux S'obligent a des Reparations proportionnès au Dommage, et a l'entiere restitution de cequi aura etè pris.

[31st.] [——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEMR. 1754.*——]

Art. 5th.

If the Allies or other Troops in the Pay of either Nation shall be guilty of any Act of Hostility or commit any Pillages in the Territories whereof either Nation is now in Possession it shall be Lawful for both Nations to repulse their Insults by Force by which the injur'd Nation shall not be deem'd to have infring'd the present Agreement.

Art. 6th.

If the Allies or Auxiliary Troops of either Nation shall take up Arms and insult the Countries of which the Nation they are allied to is now in Possession, in this Case the two Nations shall assist each other against this Enemy who shall thereby become the common Enemy of both.

Art. 7th.

The Troops of the two Nations shall be employ'd during this Truce in the Care of their present Establishments and Possessions, they may be transported freely and without any Difficulty from one Place to another at the Pleasure of the Governours, Generals, Commanders &ca. of each Nation and all Persons actually under the protection of either Flag may likewise go and come at pleasure without being molested either in their Effects or Persons.

Art. 8th.

Trade shall be free throughout the Karnateck, and in all the Countries to the Northward of the Choromandel Coast for the two contracting Nations, they may fetch Merchandizes from all the Places in the dependance of each other and transport them freely without any Restraint through the respective Jagueers and Territories.

Art. 9e.

All common Enemies or the particular Enemies of either Nation who shall come to attack the English and the French in their present Possessions and trouble the Tranquillity which is to Reign in India, shall be repuls'd by the united Force of the two Nations French and English.

Art. 5e.

Si les Alliès ou autres Troupes a la Solde de l'une, ou de lautre Nation commettent quelqu'Acte d'Hostilitè, ou exercent des Pillages sur les Terres dont l'une, et l'autre Nation sont en Possession actuellement, il sera libre a l'une et a l'autre de repousser leurs Insultes par la Force sans que pour cela la Nation offensèe puisse etre sensèe avoir contrevenu au present Accord.

Art. 6e.

Si les Allieś ou Troupes auxiliaires de l'une et de l'autre Nation prenoient les Armes, ou insultoient les Païs dont la Nation avec laquelle ils seroient lièz est actuellement en Possession, en ce Cas les deux Nations se preteront Secours et Assistance pour S'opposer a cet Ennemy qui deviendroit alors commun a toutes les deux.

Art. 7e.

Les Troupes des deux Nations seront employèes pendant cette Treve a la garde de leurs Etablissements et Possessions presentes, elles pourront etre transferèes sans nulle difficultè, et librement d'un Endroit dans un autre suivant la Volontè des Gouverneurs, Generaux, Commandants &ca. de Chaque Nation, et toutes Personnes actuellement sous la Protection de l'un, ou de l'autre Pavillon pourront egalement aller et venir ou bon leur semblera sans etre inquietès ny en leurs biens, ny en leurs Personnes.

Art. 8e.

Le Commerce sera libre dans tout le Carnatte, et dans tout le Païs du Nord de la Cote Coromandel pour les deux Nations Contractantes, elles pourront tirer des Marchandises de tous les Endroits dependants de l'un ou de l'autre et les faire transporter librement sans aucune restriction quelconque au travers des Jaquirs, et Terres respectives.

Art. 9e.

Tous Ennemis Communs ou les Ennemis particulieres de l'une ou l'autre Nation qui viendront attaquer les Anglois, Et les Francois dans leurs Possessions actuelles et troubler la Tranquilitè qui doit regner dans le Païs de L'Inde, seront repoussès par la Force des Armes reunies des deux Nations Francoise, et Angloise.

[——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEM^R. 1754.*——] [31st.]

Art. 10th.

As soon as the Truce is proclaim'd, the mutual Exchange of Prisoners shall be set about; Man for Man, and Means shall be resolv'd on for the Ease of those which shall not be exchang'd.

Art. 11th.

Commissaries shall be appointed on both Sides to examine into the Infringements committed by each Party, or their Auxiliary Troops or Allies and settle the Restitution to be made of all the Places taken during the Truce against the Tenour of the Suspension of Arms, as likewise of all that may have been taken from them by the said auxiliary Troops, in Merchandizes, Effects, Money &c^a. & further to settle in a fixed Method for a Guide during the whole Time of the Truce, all the Names and the extent of every Country, Paragana and Village, under the Power and in the Possession of the two Nations English and French.

Art. 12e.

It is agreed that whenever in the Course of the Truce any Complaint shall be made by either of the said Nations of an Infringement of the 4th Article, the said Commissaries on each Side appointed shall certify and examine the Fact that Justice may be done accordingly to the injur'd Nation, either by Restitution or Reparation according to the Nature of the Injury receiv'd.

Done at Fort S^t. George the thirty first Day of December, One Thousand seven Hundred and Fifty four.

THO^s. SAUNDERS.

L. S.

Art. 10e.

Aussitot la Treve proclamèe, on travaillera a l'Echange mutuel des Prisonniers a nombre Egal, et on se determinera sur les Moyens de Soulager ceux qui ne seront point Echangès.

Art. 11e.

Il sera nommè depart, et d'autre des Commissaires pour Examiner les Contraventions arrivèes depart, et d'autre ou par les Troupes auxiliaires, ou Alliés, et faire rendre toutes les Places prises pendant la Treve, contre la teneur de la Suspension d'Armes, comme aussi de cequi pourroit leur avoir etè enlevè par les dittes Troupes auxiliaires, en Marchandises Deurèes [*sic*] Argent &ca., mais encore pour convenir d'une maniere stable pour tout le Tems de la Treve des Noms, et de l' Etendüe de tous les Païs, Terres, Paraguanas, et Aldèes qui sont au Pouvoir des deux Nations Angloise et Francoise.

Art 12e.

Il a etè convenu que des qu'il aura etè formé pendant le Cours de la Treve quelques Plaintes par l'une des dittes deux Nations contrè la teneur de l' Article 4e, les dits Commissaires nommés depart, et d'autre, verifieront, et examineront le fait pour y etre ensuitte fait droit envers la Nation Lezèe, soit par Restitution, soit par Dedomagement suivant la Nature du Tort qu'elle aura souffert.

Fait a Pondichery le ving^t sixieme jour' de Decembre Mil sept Cent cinquante quatre.

GODEHEU.

L. S.

[31st.] [——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEMR. 1754.*——]

Additional Articles and Stipulations to the foregoing Truce.

Artc. 1st.

If any Nation should attempt to erect a Settlement within the Bounds of the present Possessions of either of the two Companies both English and French shall jointly oppose and hinder any such Undertaking.

Artc. 2d.

The Custom Houses and Juncans shall remain on the same footing as before the War, and no Alteration shall be made in the Duties paid on the Importation and Exportation of Goods of the Produce or Manufacture of the Coast.

Done at Fort St. George the thirty first Day of December, One Thousand seven hundred and fifty four.

THOS. SAUNDERS.

L. S.

Articles pour être ajoutès à ceux du Traittè de Treve.

Artc 1er.

Si quelque Nation entreprenoit de former un Etablissement dans l'etenduë des prèsentes Possessions de l'une ou de l'autre Compagnie françoise et Angloises, les Anglois et les françois se joindront pour S'y opposer et empêcher toute entreprise semblable.

Art. 2e.

Les Douannes et Juncans demeureront sur le même pied qu'elles êtoient avant la Guerre : il ne sera point fait d' innovations dans les Droits payés sur l'importation ou l'exportation des Marchandises de fabrique ou du crû du Pays.

Fait a Pondichery le quatrieme jour du Mois de Janvier mil Sept cents cinquante quatre.

GODEHEU.

L. S.

31st. Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Godeheu to the President dated the 29th Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondce: No. 65.

" Sent the following Letters from the Committee to Colonel Adlercron, Mr. Starke, Colonel Heron, Major Killpatrick and Mr. Hopkins to advise them of the Truce.

To COLONEL JOHN ADLERCRON COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE LAND FORCES TO BE EMPLOY'D IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

A Truce being concluded between the English and French and the Allies on both Sides, which is to take place on the 11th. Janry. next the Day of the Expiration of the Suspension of Arms, and to continue in Force untill Answers are receiv'd from Europe unto the Articles of a provisional Treaty, concluded and sign'd at the same Time with the Truce we imagine that it will be unnecessary to be at the Expence of encamping his Majesty's or the Company's Troops.

We have order'd Mr. Starke to proclaim the Truce publickly as soon as he can after the Receipt of the Letter we now write him and it may be done if you think proper at the Head of his Majesty's Troops at the same Time We are Sir Your most Obedient humble Servants—

THOS. SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGR. LAWRENCE—HENY. POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—AR. WYNCH—WM. PERCEVAL.

Fort St. George
31st. Decemr. 1754.

[——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEMR. 1754.*——] [31st]

To RICHARD STARKE Esq^R^
DEPUTY GOVERNOUR OF FORT St DAVID.

Sir,

A Truce being concluded and sign'd between the English and French comprehending the Allies on both Sides which is to take place from the 11th Jan^ry^ 1755 the Day of the Expiration of the Suspension of Arms and to continue in Force untill Answers are receiv'd from Europe to the Articles of a provisional Treaty concluded also and sign'd at the same Time, you will immediately issue the necessary Orders that no Hostilities be committed and cause the Truce to be publickly proclaim'd at the Head of the Garrison as soon as you can after the Receipt hereof. We are, Sir Your most Obedient Servants. THO^S^ SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HEN^Y^. POWNEY—ROB^T^ ORME—ALEX^R^ WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St George
31 Decem^r^ 1754.

Please to forward the inclos'd Letters with as much Expedition as possible.

To ALEX^R^ HERON Esq^R^ MAJOR OF THE HOÑBLE COMPANY'S
FORCES ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL.

Sir

We have concluded a Provisional Treaty and a Truce with the French to commence on the 11th Jan^ry^ next when the Suspension of Arms expires and to continue in Force untill Answers are receiv'd from Europe on the Subject of the Articles agreed on, in which the Allies on both Sides are included You are therefore to take effectual Care that no Hostilities be committed by our Troops or those of our Allies against the French or their Allies and you will immediately acquaint the Nabob and the King of Tanjore of it and desire them to send their Orders to the same Effect without Loss of Time.

The President will write them the particulars in two or three Days.

Immediately on the Receipt of this Letter you will cause the Truce to be publickly proclaim'd at the Head of the Troops. We are Sir Your most Obed^t^ Servants.

Fort St George
31st Decem^r^ 1754. THO^S^ SAUNDERS &C^A^ COMITTEE.

To MAJOR JAMES KILLPATRICK

Sir

This is to acquaint you that there is a Truce concluded between the English and French and their Allies on both Sides to take place on the 11th January next, and continue in force untill the Receipt of Answers from Europe. You will cause publick proclamation to be made thereof immediately on the Receipt of this Letter; and see that it be strictly observ'd as far as Concerns your Command. We are Sir Your most obedient Servants. THO^S^ SAUNDERS—GEORGE PIGOT—STRING^R^ LAWRENCE—HEN^Y^ POWNEY—ROB^T^ ORME—ALEX^R^ WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

Fort St George
31st Decem^r^ 1754.

[31ST.] [——*FORT ST. GEORGE, 31ST. DECEMR. 1754.*——]

To Mr. Charles Hopkins
Chief of Devecotah

Sir

A Truce is concluded between the English and French and the Allies on both Sides to take place from the 11th January 1755. the Day of the Expiration of the Suspension of Arms and to continue in force untill the Receipt of Answers from Europe, you are therefore immediately to issue the necessary Orders that no Hostilities be committed.

You will proclaim the Truce publickly as soon as you receive this Letter. We are, Sir Your most Obedient Servants. Thos. Saunders—George Pigot—Stringer Lawrence—Henry. Powney—Robt. Orme—Alexr. Wynch—William Perceval.

Fort St. George
31st. Decemr. 1754.

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